SATURDAY
December 14, 2024

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Subbulakshmi's name can be used for award

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Allu Arjun arrested, out on bail

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BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS

Sri Lankan President to visit India on Dec. 15

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BANGLADESH DILEMMA

Fractured bonds along the border

Continued protests hit movement of people, goods into West Bengal

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BRISBANE BATTLE

India batters will look to turn things around

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NEARBY

E-khata may be linked with plan approvals

BENGALURU
After making e-khatas mandatory for property transactions, the BBMP is now considering issuing e-khatas for the building plan approved by the civic body for a particular building. It hopes this will prevent building bylaw violations, which are rampant in Bengaluru. » Page 2

First FIR related to COVID-19 'scam' registered

BENGALURU
The first case related to the alleged scam and irregularities in managing the COVID-19 pandemic in the State was registered at the Vidhana Soudha Police Station on Friday. » Page 5

Minister hurls graft charge against BYV

BELAGAVI
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge on Friday accused BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra of offering a bribe of ₹150 crore to former chairman of the State minorities commission Anwar Manippady to remain quiet on encroachment of waqf properties. » Page 10

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 2

Oppn. seeks HC judge's impeachment

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A six-member delegation of Opposition MPs in the Rajya Sabha handed over a motion seeking impeachment of Allahabad High Court judge Shekhar Kumar Yadav, to secretary-general of the Upper House on Friday, accusing him of engaging in "hate speech" and inciting "communal disharmony" in violation of the Constitution.

The delegation led by Independent MP Kapil Sibal included the Congress's Vivek Tankha and Digvijay Singh, CPI(M)'s John Brittas, RJD's Manoj K. Jha and the Trinamool Congress's Saket Gokhale.

The motion has been signed by 55 Opposition MPs across parties.

The Opposition's move was prompted by Justice Yadav's remarks about Muslims at an event organised by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad last week.

In its 21-page petition, the Opposition made three allegations.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Cong. chose power over Constitution, says Rajnath Singh

Defence Minister accuses Congress of violating Constitutional principles; says NDA will never allow basic character of Constitution to be changed

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Taking a dig at people who "carry a copy of the Constitution in their pockets", Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said that a "particular political party" had tried to appropriate and hijack the making of the Constitution. The Congress had always chosen power rather than the Constitution, he claimed.

Initiating a debate in the Lok Sabha on the 'Glorious Journey of 75 Years of the Constitution of India', Mr. Singh said his government would never allow "the basic character of the Constitution to be changed".

Caste census proposal
Claiming that the BJP had "no objection" to a caste census as demanded by the Opposition, Mr. Singh said they should offer clear details of their proposal. "Come up with a blueprint where it is crystal clear which caste will get how much reservation. We have no objection to even having a discussion in Parliament," he said.

Rajnath Singh and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra in Parliament. PTI

Priyanka Gandhi takes on PM in debut speech

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not understood that it is '*Bharat ka Samvidhan*' (Constitution of India) not '*Sangh ka Vidhan*' (rulebook of the RSS), Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said in her debut speech in the Lok Sabha. She also flagged the violence in Manipur and Sambhal.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 14

Leaders of the Congress and other Opposition parties reiterated that they would conduct a caste census if voted to power.

Mr. Singh said the Congress never tolerated autonomy of institutions and instead tried to destroy Constitutional principles and spirit.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Actors Darshan, Pavithra Gowda get regular bail in murder case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday granted regular bail to seven accused, including actors Darshan and Pavithra Gowda, in the Renukaswamy kidnap, torture, and murder case.

The court cited two main reasons for releasing them on bail. Firstly, the court said they are entitled for bail for the reason that the police had failed to furnish ground of arrest on the accused persons immediately after their arrest in terms of the apex court's October 3, 2023 verdict in Prabir Purkayasta's case, which makes service of memo of grounds of arrest on the accused mandatory immediately after their arrest.

Darshan

The court, citing discrepancies in the records, did not accept the claim of the police that the grounds of arrest were served on Darshan and other accused persons.

Second reason cited by the High Court is that all the seven accused have no serious criminal antecedents, they are in custody for the last six months and chance of trial being completed in the near future is very remote as the prosecution in its chargesheet has cited 262 witnesses and 587 documents in 13 volumes.

Justice S. Vishwajith Shetty passed the order while allowing the separate petitions filed by Darshan, Pavithra Gowda, Nagaraju R., Anu Kumar alias Anu, Lakshman M., Jagadeesh alias Jagga, and Pradosh S. Rao. Meanwhile, the court directed the State police chief to take necessary steps forthwith prescribing a uniform format for communicating to the persons arrested the grounds of arrest in writing, which should include all basic facts of the case leading to the arrest.

A copy of such memo of grounds of arrest, communicated to the arrested persons, should also be enclosed along with the remand report when filed before the jurisdictional magistrate seeking remand of the arrested persons.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 4

Cong. to move discussion in House on 'lenient stand' of judiciary on BJP leaders

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

In a bid to step up pressure on the BJP, the Congress is expected to move a discussion in the legislature on the alleged "lenient stand" taken by the judiciary in Karnataka with respect to BJP leaders and bring it to the notice of the Chief Justice of India. The decision was taken by the State Cabinet, which met here on Friday. Sources said the proposal to have the discussion in the Winter Session was moved at the Cabinet meeting by Labour Minister Santosh Lad.

Sources said the Congress government felt that the judiciary in Karnataka had taken a "lenient view" with respect to the quashing of FIRs filed in separate cases against Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and MP for Bengaluru South Tejaswi Surya, staying of FIR filed against former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and the "leniency" shown to former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa. Government sources said the discussion could be held either on Monday or Tuesday, and the decision to send the resolution or a report to the Chief Justice of India and other modalities will be taken after consultation with party leaders. "This is a decision to counter the BJP that has been trying to corner the government," sources said. While an FIR had been filed against Ms. Sitharaman for allegedly extorting money in the guise of electoral bonds, an FIR had been filed against Mr. Surya for spreading 'fake news' regarding the suicide of a farmer in Haveri district. Both have been quashed.

Good catch

Fishers' day out: Local residents have a go at fishing after one of the sluice gates of the Oussudu tank was opened at Pathukannu junction in Puducherry on Friday. S.S KUMAR

Trans women now get benefit under Gruha Lakshmi scheme

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Members of the transgender community have welcomed the sanctioning of monetary benefit under the Gruha Lakshmi scheme, which is one of the Congress government's five poll guarantees.

In the beginning, the scheme covered women heads of families, offering ₹2,000 a month. The scheme has now been extended to trans women. They started receiving the benefit on December 11, and over 15,000 trans women have benefited so far.

In a statement on Friday, the Movement for Gender and Sexual Pluralism, said, "We welcome the sanctioning of money under the Gruha Lakshmi scheme. After many organisations fought for the inclusion of trans women in the scheme, the Department of Women and Child Development announced in June 2024 that sexual minorities can apply for the scheme with their transgender card." Thus, many trans women applied for the scheme in July. Even though it was delayed by four months, the community members finally received the money on December 11, it stated.

Maya Nayak, a trans woman from Yadgir and one of the first beneficiaries from the transgender community, said, "Many trans women resort to sex work or begging to even afford basic things like house rent. Now, we can use this money to pay house rent or any such necessities. All the credit should go to our coalitions and movements that fought for this. The government finally heard us."

Monica, a trans woman from Ramanagara, said, "I make money through collection in public places only. I have diabetes and now my leg is injured and I have no means to go out and earn. I received this ₹2,000 for the first time and it'll help me buy medicines or groceries." The representatives of the community also said that while this move increased their trust in the government, it would benefit economically weaker persons.

Youth beaten to death for stealing cigarette packets

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

A 25-year-old Dalit youth working at a private blood bank in Kalaburagi was allegedly beaten and tortured to death by its owner after he was caught stealing cigarette packets.

The deceased was identified as Shashikanth Mallikarjun, a resident of Pragati Colony in the city.

The police have registered an FIR against the owner of the blood bank, Chandrashekar M. Patil, and his four friends, Aditya Maratha, Omprakash Ghorvadi, Rahul Patil, and Ashfaq in connection with the murder.

Sources said that the accused locked up Shashikanth in a room for hours and brutally thrashed him. On Thursday evening, when his parents were taking him home, Shashikanth collapsed and died. The blood bank is located near Basaveshwara Hospital.

The victim's father, Mallikarjun, has in his complaint stated that the accused, Chandrashekar, asked his son to pay ₹1.4 lakh for stealing cigarette packets.

When Shashikanth failed to pay the amount, Chandrasekhar and his four friends locked him up in a room, switched off his mobile phone, and thrashed him, Mallikarjun said in the complaint.

The bereaved family members and leaders of Dalit organisations staged a protest with the body outside the Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital, demanding the immediate arrest of the accused responsible for the youth's death.

Cases have been registered against the accused for murder and also under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

Kremlin praises Trump, pounds Ukraine

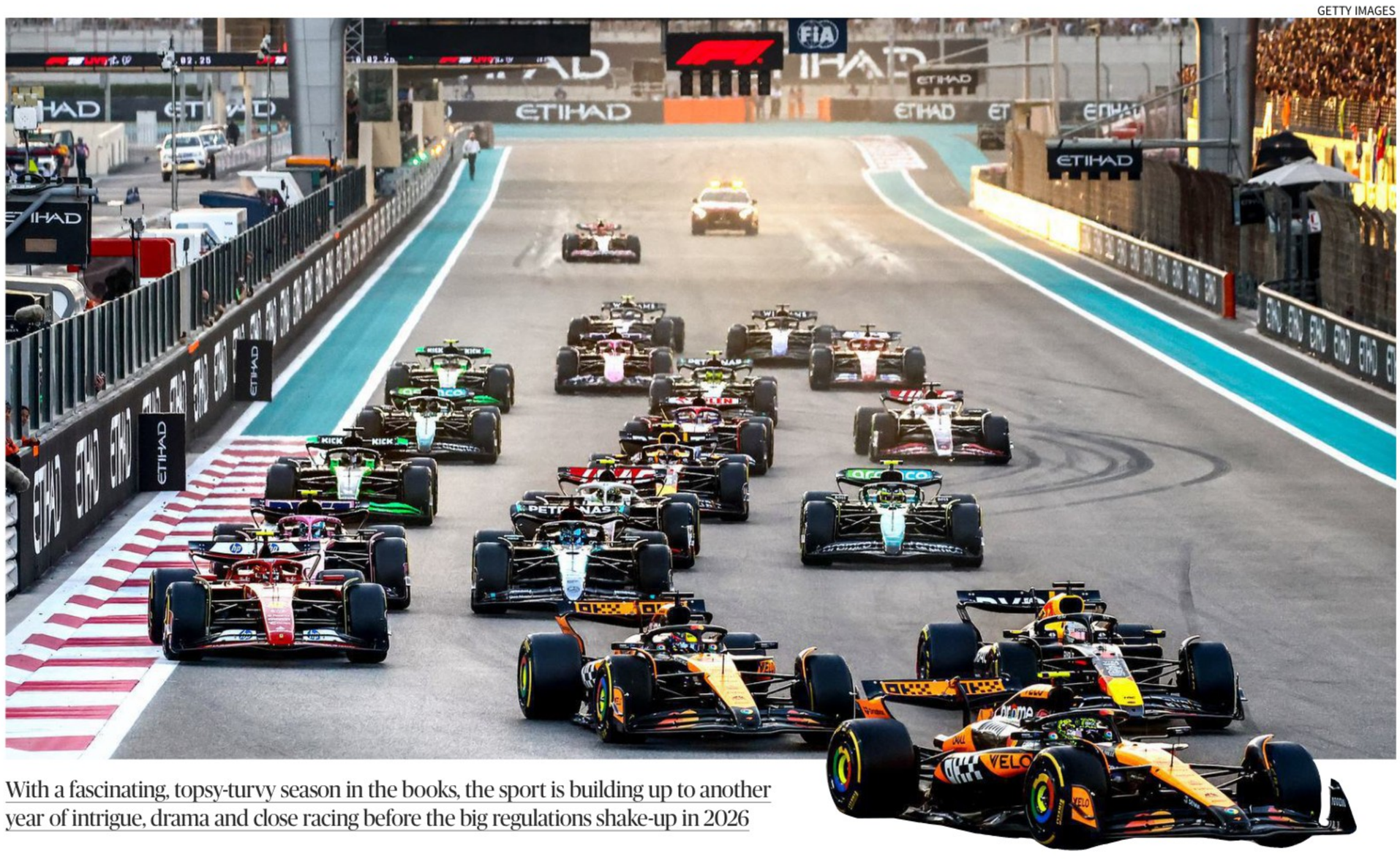
Agence France-Presse
KYIV

The Kremlin said on Friday that U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's opposition to Ukraine's use of U.S. weapons to hit Russia "fully aligned" with Moscow's position, hours after it launched a massive aerial barrage on Ukraine.

Russia targeted Ukraine's energy grid in what Moscow called a retaliatory strike for Kyiv firing U.S. weapons on a southern Russian airfield earlier this week.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 18

GETTY IMAGES



With a fascinating, topsy-turvy season in the books, the sport is building up to another year of intrigue, drama and close racing before the big regulations shake-up in 2026

2024 done, 2025 loading: the F1 plotlines that could develop new arcs

S. Dipak Ragav

The longest Formula One season in history concluded in Abu Dhabi last weekend, bringing the curtain down on an enthralling year during which the pecking order see-sawed, keeping the fans invested until the final race. *The Hindu* looks at some of the major talking points from the season gone by and gazes into the crystal ball to see what 2025 could offer.

Four-way title fight in 2025?

At the start of the year, it seemed as if Red Bull and Max Verstappen would run away with both titles after winning four of the first five races.

But from Miami, McLaren slowly established itself as a front-runner. However, the team's operational weakness and driver errors meant it did not maximise its package, allowing Verstappen to add three more wins at events where he probably did not have the fastest car.

McLaren had the fastest car through the summer, even as Red Bull suffered a steep dip in its fortunes. Only Verstappen was able to cover his team's flaws. In between, Mercedes joined the party, snatching three opportunistic victories.

There is a case to be made that any other driver in the Red Bull would have lost the title... Verstappen buried the notion that he needs a fast car to win

After the summer break, Ferrari became a genuine contender, and the Italian marque made McLaren sweat it out for the constructors' championship, falling short by just 14 points.

Considering the current regulations stay stable next year ahead of the big shake-up in 2026, the pecking order is unlikely to change drastically unless any team blunders.

Ferrari and McLaren closed the season strongly, while Red Bull addressed some key weaknesses later in the year. If Mercedes can design a car that has a wider operating window than it has now, the intriguing possibility of a four-way title battle opens up.

Captivating driver field

Though Verstappen had to wait until Las Vegas to seal the drivers' crown and was made to work hard for it, Lando Norris never got close enough to apply real pressure on the four-time champion. Norris, in his first year in a title fight, showed there are still chinks in his armour, notably in his wheel-to-wheel abilities, especially when battling the Dutchman.

It will be interesting to see how Norris addresses his potential weakness next season now that he knows what it is to be in a championship fight. At the same time, Norris will also have to be wary of teammate Oscar Piastri, who took a step in the right direction in his sophomore campaign, claiming two victories. The Australian needs to improve his qualifying performances, as he was often slower by a tenth or two, and needs to be more consistent in races.

Meanwhile, all eyes will be on Lewis Hamilton in a Ferrari that is on an upward swing. The seven-time champion appeared to lack motivation this year, and he will hope the change will renew his spirit. But he will have a formidable competitor in teammate Charles Leclerc, who was arguably the second-best driver after Verstappen in 2024.

The incumbent Ferrari driver is considered one of the best of the new generation alongside Verstappen and has dealt admirably with the latter on the track. However, Leclerc has not had a car to showcase his full potential, barring the first half of 2022, when he was in contention before the Scuderia's challenge fizzled out.

Mercedes, too, will have an interesting line-up of George Russell and rookie Andrea Kimi Antonelli. For Russell, it is a chance to grow out of Hamilton's shadow and establish himself as the team leader. Antonelli is the dark horse. The hype and buzz surrounding him is enormous, and the German team must carefully manage the young Italian.

Verstappen's legacy

Having won four championships on the bounce, Verstappen has already shattered many records and etched his name among the greats. While the final points margin made it look like an easy win, it's also a stark reminder of how good he has been in 2024, when you account for the fact he has had the second- or third-best car for most of the season.

Ferrari and McLaren closed strongly, Red Bull addressed some key weaknesses. If Mercedes can design a car with a wider operating window, the possibility of a four-way battle opens up

There is a case to be made that any other driver in that Red Bull would have lost the title, as evidenced by the fact that he scored 437 points while teammate Sergio Perez had only 152. Verstappen showed how big a difference he could make, with no better example than his stirring drive in wet Interlagos, where he charged from 17th to win the race by nearly 20 seconds.

When drivers go on title-winning runs, it becomes easy to downplay their skills, especially if they have a superior package, as Verstappen did in 2022 and '23.

Even though he showcased exceptional driving ability in 2021, the controversy surrounding the manner in which he won the title in the last race in Abu Dhabi has always been held against him. In 2024, Verstappen, once and for all, buried the notion that he needs a fast car to win. More than the record books, this triumph has accentuated his legacy.

Developmental race to hit pause?

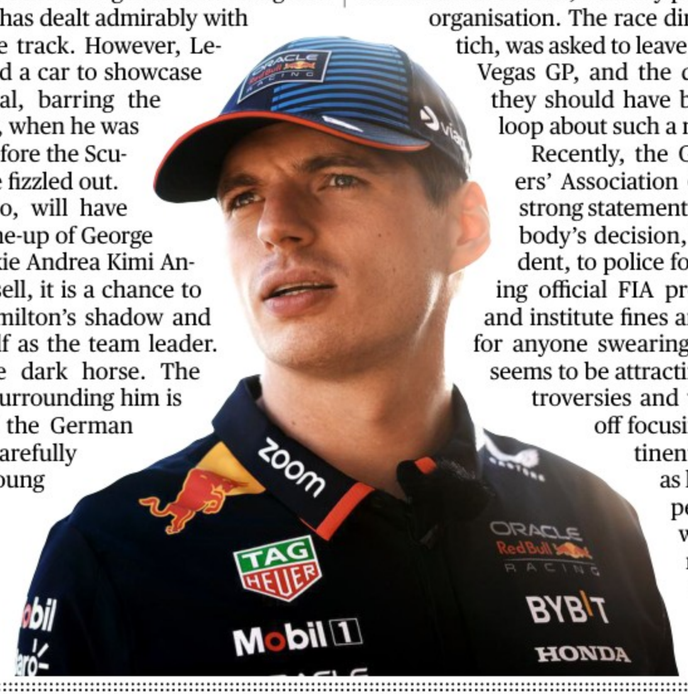
Next year, one of the subplots to observe will be how the teams tackle their developmental plans. With a massive regulations change in store for 2026, teams could switch their focus by mid-season. However, it gets complicated when they are locked in an intense battle. In 2022, Red Bull took advantage of the big rejig and laid the foundation for Verstappen's three crowns. But now, without the services of design genius Adrian Newey, it is crucial for the energy drink giant to prove it can manage in the absence of F1's most accomplished designer.

Having lost the fight in the constructors' standings this year, Red Bull's current design team has a point to prove. Finishing third gives the former champion slightly more wind tunnel and CFD time than McLaren or Ferrari and could, in a way, help it prepare for the new era.

Untangling the mess at the FIA

While the action on track this season has often been brilliant, the same can't be said about the happenings off-track. The governing body, the FIA – mainly its president Mohammed Ben Sulayem – and the drivers have not been on the same page on key issues. There has been a massive churn in the FIA, with key people leaving the organisation. The race director, Niels Wittich, was asked to leave ahead of the Las Vegas GP, and the drivers said that they should have been kept in the loop about such a massive change.

Recently, the Grand Prix Drivers' Association (GPDA) issued a strong statement against the apex body's decision, led by its president, to police foul language during official FIA press conferences and institute fines and punishments for anyone swearing. The president seems to be attracting needless controversies and would be better off focusing on more pertinent matters, such as having a panel of permanent stewards to ensure more consistent decision-making.



STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	23	11,830	17
2	Alexander Zverev	27	7,915	21
3	Carlos Alcaraz	21	7,010	18
4	Taylor Fritz	27	5,100	22
5	Daniil Medvedev	28	5,030	17
6	Casper Ruud	25	4,255	25
7	Novak Djokovic	37	3,910	18
8	Andrey Rublev	27	3,760	27
9	Alex de Minaur	25	3,745	23
10	Grigor Dimitrov	33	3,350	19
11	Stefanos Tsitsipas	26	3,165	22
12	Tommy Paul	27	3,145	21
13	Holger Rune	21	3,025	23
14	Ugo Humbert	26	2,765	26
15	Jack Draper	22	2,685	22

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 98 ▼ 4 spots

Mukund Sasikumar
Rank 366 ▲ 1 spot

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	26	9,416	21
2	Iga Swiatek	23	8,295	18
3	Coco Gauff	20	6,530	22
4	Jasmine Paolini	28	5,344	20
5	Qinwen Zheng	22	5,340	21
6	Elena Rybakina	25	5,171	20
7	Jessica Pegula	30	4,705	19
8	Emma Navarro	23	3,589	25
9	Daria Kasatkina	27	3,368	24
10	Barbora Krejcikova	28	3,214	17
11	Danielle Collins	30	3,178	19
12	Paula Badosa	27	2,908	20
13	Diana Shnaider	20	2,895	27
14	Anna Kalinskaya	26	2,743	20
15	Jelena Ostapenko	27	2,588	21

Top Indians ▶

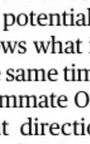
Ankita Raina
Rank 289 ▼ 2 spots

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 312 ▼ 1 spot

F1 Drivers' standings

#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	437	9
2	Lando Norris	McLaren	374	4
3	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	356	3
4	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	292	2
5	Carlos Sainz	Ferrari	290	2
6	George Russell	Mercedes	245	2
7	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	223	2
8	Sergio Perez	Red Bull	152	0
9	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	70	0
10	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	42	0
11	Nico Hulkenberg	Haas	41	0
12	Yuki Tsunoda	RB	30	0
13	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	24	0
14	Esteban Ocon	Alpine	23	0
15	Kevin Magnussen	Haas	16	0
16	Alex Albon	Williams	12	0
17	Daniel Ricciardo	RB	12	0
18	Oliver Bearman	Haas	7	0
19	Franco Colapinto	Williams	5	0
20	Zhou Guanyu	Sauber	4	0
21	Liam Lawson	RB	4	0

Max Verstappen



Lando Norris

F1 Constructors' standings

Pos	Team	Points	Wins
1	McLaren	666	6
2	Ferrari	652	5
3	Red Bull	589	9
4	Mercedes	468	4
5	Aston Martin	94	0
6	Alpine	65	0
7	Haas	58	0
8	RB	46	0
9	Williams	17	0
10	Sauber	4	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	Shi Yu Qi	99,215	14
2	Anders Antonsen	93,821	20
3	Viktor Axelsen	92,290	14
4	Jonatan Christie	85,947	17
5	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	81,408	17
6	Li Shi Feng	76,896	18
7	Kodai Naraoka	76,847	20
8	Lee Zii Jia	76,256	19
9	Chou Tien Chen	71,497	26
10	Anthony Sinisuka Ginting	68,305	16
11	Koki Watanabe	64,374	18
12	Lakshya Sen	63,668	17
13	Loh Kean Yew	61,333	21
14	Lin Chun-Yi	61,071	22
15	Kenta Nishimoto	58,212	23

Top Indians ▶

Lakshya Sen
Rank 12

Prannoy H. S.
Rank 26

Badminton Women's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	107,667	12
2	Wang Zhi Yi	92,815	19
3	Chen Yu Fei	88,982	10
4	Akane Yamaguchi	86,157	14
5	Tai Tzu Ying	79,021	12
6	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	76,762	19
7	Carolina Marin	74,996	9
8	Han Yue	74,249	21
9	Aya Ohori	69,497	21
10	Supanida Katethong	64,764	21
11	Tomoka Miyazaki	62,637	18
12	Busanan Ongbamrungphan	61,630	23
13	Yeo Jia Min	60,550	17
14	Pornpawee Chochuwong	60,304	21
15	Beiwen Zhang	58,376	18

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 16

Malvika Bansod
Rank 32

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Harry Brook	898	898
2	Joe Root	897	932
3	Kane Williamson	812	919
4	Yashasvi Jaiswal	811	825
5	Travis Head	781	884
6	Kamindu Mendis	759	759
7	Temba Bavuma	753	753
8	Daryl Mitchell	729	804
9	Rishabh Pant	724	801
9	Saud Shakeel	724	728

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	890	890
2	Kagiso Rabada	856	902
3	Josh Hazlewood	851	864
4	Pat Cummins	816	914
5	R. Ashwin	797	904
6	Ravindra Jadeja	786	899
7	Nathan Lyon	779	801
8	Prabath Jayasuriya	768	801
9	Matt Henry	764	772
10	Noman Ali	759	759

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Babar Azam	800	898
2	Rohit Sharma	765	882
3	Shubman Gill	763	847
4	Virat Kohli	746	909
5	Harry Tector	737	767
6	Daryl Mitchell	706	750
7	Rahmanullah Gurbaz	693	693
8	Shai Hope	682	802
9	Pathum Nissanka	671	728
10	Charith Asalanka	660	683

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Rashid Khan	687	799
2	Shaheen Afridi	675	696
3	Keshav Maharaj	674	741
4	Kuldeep Yadav	665	760
5	Bernard Scholtz	654	659
6	Maheesh Theekshana	650	650
7	Jasprit Bumrah	645	838
8	Mohammed Siraj	643	736
9	Gudakesh Motie	639	639
10	Adam Zampa	635	698

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Travis Head	855	884
2	Philip Salt	829	860
3	Tilak Varma	806	806
4	Suryakumar Yadav	788	910
5	Jos Buttler	717	726
6	Mohammad Rizwan	713	875
7	Babar Azam	710	896
8	Yashasvi Jaiswal	706	779
9	Pathum Nissanka	672	698
10	Rahmanullah Gurbaz	636	748

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Adil Rashid	701	746
2	Wanindu Hasaranga	696	797
3	Adam Zampa	693	743
4	Akeal Hosein	689	695
5	Maheesh Theekshana	684	684
6	Gudakesh Motie	673	707
7	Rashid Khan	668	816
8	Ravi Bishnoi	666	699
9	Arshdeep Singh	656	656
10	Fazalhaq Farooqi	645	692

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BBMP plans to link e-khata with building plan approvals

As property records are digitised, officials do not need to visit to cross-verify

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

After making e-khatas mandatory for property transactions, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is now considering issuing e-khatas for the building plan approved by the civic body for a particular building. It hopes this will prevent building bylaw violations, which are rampant in Bengaluru.

"There is a plan to link e-khatas and building plan approvals. We may not implement this immediately, but we will do this down the line," said Munish Moudgil, Special Commissioner (Revenue), BBMP, who has been spearheading the e-khata initiative.

After building an apartment complex, a builder will approach the civic body to secure e-khata for the individual flats. If the approved building plan and the e-khata portal are linked at the backend, violations will be flagged, and e-khata will not be issued to flats that violate the plan.

An aerial view of buildings in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

For instance, if the Town Planning Department approved ground plus 10 floors and the builder built 12 floors, then the e-khata portal will reject an application for the khata for flats on the unapproved two additional floors. Since an e-khata is mandatory for property registration, the builder will likely be stuck with the flats on the unapproved floors, a senior BBMP official explained.

The e-khata will not be issued to flats that violate the plan

Since the e-khata will have details about the plot, any Floor Area Ratio violations can also potentially be checked for, sources said.

Curb corruption

The civic body has already introduced a "trust and verify" model for plan approvals. Linking e-khata with plan approvals at the backend can help the civic body introduce an automated system to check plan violations.

As property records are digitised, officials do not need to visit to cross-verify. This will take the civic body a step forward in making its services "faceless and contactless" to curb corruption.

Cakes and creativity

Season's special: The 50th annual cake exhibition began at Palace Grounds in Bengaluru on Friday. SUDHAKARA JAIN SUDHAKARA JAIN

State govt. to take ₹3,000 crore World Bank loan for development of rajakaluves

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The State government is set to take a loan of ₹3,000 crore from the World Bank for the development of Bengaluru's rajakaluves (main stormwater drains) as well as underground drainage.

One-time solution

Disclosing this while making a statement on Friday (December 13, 2024) in the Legislative Assembly on the damage due to rains this year, Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said the government had decided to take up remodelling and development of rajakaluves in Bengaluru as a one-time-solution to handle flooding with the help of a World Bank loan. Ten rounds of meetings had already been held with World Bank representatives in this regard.

"While ₹2,000 crore would be given to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) for development of rajakaluves, ₹1,000 crore would be given to the BWSSB for building underground drainage," Mr. Krishna Byre Gowda said.

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said the government had decided to take up remodelling and development of 'rajakaluves' in Bengaluru.

He pointed out that sewage is currently being let into rajakaluves in some areas due to an inadequate underground drainage network. Therefore, the government has decided to focus on building underground drainage systems alongside the rajakaluves.

He said the development of rajakaluves was being undertaken mainly to prevent flooding of areas and roads during the rainy season.

The Revenue Minister said Bengaluru city has a total of 856 km of rajakaluves and 200 km of tertiary drains

On 350 km of rajakaluve

Bengaluru city has a total of 856 km of rajakaluves and 200 km of tertiary drains. There was a dire need to widen and remodel them to prevent flooding, he said.

While the earlier government led by Siddaramaiah had completed the remodelling of 575 km of drains from 2013 to 2018, the subsequent governments had worked on only 100 km of drains till 2023, he said.

The government wanted to complete the development of the remaining 350 km stretch of rajakaluves within a year with the help of a World Bank loan, the Minister said. Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar had already held a meeting in this regard with officials concerned and issued strict directions to them, he noted.

In rest of State too

The Revenue Minister said that ₹2,000 crore would be given by the Karnataka government towards taking up similar one-time permanent rain-proofing works in different areas of the State that require attention.

PIL in HC questions rationale behind making e-khata mandatory for property registration

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday asked the State government and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to file their responses on a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition, which has questioned the rationale behind making e-khata mandatory for the registration of properties when the BBMP has not yet issued e-khatas for the majority of the properties in the city.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria and Justice K.V. Aravind orally told the advocates representing the government and the BBMP to file responses without issuing notice on the petition, filed by Gowrishankar S., a resident of Bengaluru.

The petitioner has pointed out that the activity of buying and selling properties has come down by 60% in the city as no property could be registered sans e-khata

Economic impact

Pointing out that not allowing registration of properties without e-khata is economically affecting a large number of people, he sought a direction from the Court to hold as void the circular issued by the governor making e-khata mandatory for BBMP limits as the civic body has not issued e-khata to all property owners in the city.

As the onus is on the property owners to secure e-khata by applying through the BBMP's portal even in cases where the property owners possess valid khatas in physical forms, the e-khata can be made mandatory only when the BBMP ensures issuance of e-khata for all the properties, the petitioner has stated in the petition.

The petitioner has said that the government should make provision for registration of properties even in the absence of e-khata by taking self-declaration from the people.

Registration

The registration of properties should be allowed in cases where the BBMP has not yet issued draft e-khata, and in cases where the property owners have applied for e-khata but are pending for various reasons.

The petitioner has also pointed out that the activity of buying and selling properties has come down by 60% in the city as no property could be registered without e-khata.

Christ to host 'Open Day' event from today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Christ (Deemed to be University) is hosting its third Open Day event on Saturday and Sunday.

Opportunities

The event will allow students and their families to explore the university campus, interact with faculty members, and seek guidance and career opportunities. It will be held from 12.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. on Saturday and from 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. on Sunday at the University's central campus, Hosur Road, Dharmaram College Post, near Dairy Circle in Bengaluru.

For further details, visit CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru 560029.

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How Kodavas celebrate Puthari, a harvest fest

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

The Kodava community will celebrate Puthari, the harvest festival that holds cultural and spiritual significance for the community, on Saturday. Those in Bengaluru who cannot make it to their hometowns mark the occasion by gathering in homes, community halls, and at the Kodava Samaja in Vasanth Nagar to honour their traditions.

Puthari, which means "new rice" in Kodava language, is a thanksgiving festival that celebrates the rice harvest, symbolising abundance and prosperity. The festival involves elaborate rituals, folk arts, and traditional feasts.

The coming together

At the Kodava Samaja in Vasanth Nagar, members gather every year to symbolically harvest paddy grown on a small plot within the premises. This paddy is distributed to participants, replicating the traditional ritual observed in Kodagu. "Since we stay in Bengaluru, every year on Puthari, we make it a point to go to the Bengaluru Kodava Samaja, which we regard as our ainmane (ancestral home) in the city. There, we symbolically harvest some paddy crop and bring back home the paddy sheaves," said Mohan Devaiah, a member of Kodava Samaja in Bengaluru.

FILE PHOTO

> Kodavas have always been an agrarian community, and rice was their staple crop before coffee cultivation became prevalent in Kodagu
>
> **AJJINIKANDA MAHESH NACHAIAH**
> President of the Karnataka Kodava Sahithya Academy

Elsewhere, smaller groups of Kodavas celebrate in homes and community halls. "Puthari is a time for us to reconnect with our roots and fellow Kodavas," said M.T. Poovaiah, a resident of New Thippasandra. "It's like bringing a slice of Kodagu to Bengaluru since we cannot go to our home in Kodagu every year," he added.

Puthari, which means 'new rice' in Kodava language, is a thanksgiving festival that celebrates the rice harvest, symbolising abundance and prosperity

Ajjinikanda Mahesh Nachaiah, President of the Karnataka Kodava Sahithya Academy, said, "Kodavas have always been an agrarian community, and rice was their staple crop before coffee cultivation became prevalent in Kodagu.

Important festival

Puthari celebrates the new crop of rice. It is one of the three most important festivals for the community, alongside Cauvery Changrandi (worship of River Cauvery) and Kail Poldh (traditional festival of arms)," he told *The Hindu*.

He lamented the declining practice of traditional folk arts integral to Puthari celebrations. "Earlier, week-long festivities included 'Mane Paado'–folk singers going house to house with traditional dudi drums, singing songs of gratitude. Villagers would gather in the mand (village greens or ground) to perform 'Kolatta' (a stick dance) and traditional war games like 'Pariya Kali' were performed. Unfortunately, these practices are fading. We must teach these traditions to the younger generation," he said.

A culinary feast

The festival's menu reflects the Kodavas' agrarian heritage. Special desserts like thambutt, made from roasted rice flour and mashed bananas, and rice payasam, prepared with freshly harvested rice, are staples of the Puthari feast. Families also prepare savoury delicacies such as pork curry, Kadumbuttu (rice ball), and akki roti (rice bread) to complement the festive spread.

While the festival was traditionally marked by week-long celebrations in Kodagu, most urban Kodavas today celebrate it over a day or two.

THE HINDU GROUP
THE HINDU
REWIND 2024
TRIVIA QUIZ
DAY 14

1. India extended its first-ever Rupee-denominated Line of Credit under IDEAS in October 2024 to which country?
2. Which traditional saree from Gujarat, generally worn during weddings, received the coveted GI tag in November 2024?
3. South India's first and the country's largest leopard safari was inaugurated in June 2024 in which city?

*T&C apply.

Scan QR code or visit newsth.live/RTQPA take the quiz. Top 3 winners* every day win gift vouchers.

Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. Sick leave
2. Maharaja
3. Patna

Yesterday's Winners:
1. Swetha A, Hyderabad | 2. Venkat.N, Chennai | 3. Pulkit Khurana, New Delhi

Meet Kevin Goh: the Gukesh victim who bid for world chess' biggest match

The Singapore Grandmaster did not enjoy his first meeting with the Indian prodigy. He was beaten by the then 12-year-old who was in search of his first GM norm. Not even in Goh's 'wildest dreams' did he think that he would host a title match featuring Gukesh six years later

INTERVIEW

Kevin Goh

P.K. Ajith Kumar

P.K. AJITH KUMAR

Kevin Goh Wei Ming can now claim that he played a role in the career of D. Gukesh, who became the youngest World chess champion in history on Thursday. It was after beating Goh in a tournament in Bangkok in 2018 that the Chennai lad, who won the World title after defeating Ding Liren in Singapore, secured his first Grandmaster norm. Ironically, the loss had spoiled Goh's hopes of the final GM norm. He wasn't done yet. As Singapore Chess Federation CEO, Goh led Singapore's bid for hosting the World Championship, which became a resounding success. Excerpts from an interview with Grandmaster Goh:

So when did you think of bidding for the World Championship?

It was just an idea that I thought of. And then I was discussing with a couple of friends – they don't really want to be named, and they were like, yes, you should. So I was speaking with some chess fans and they were like, 'Dude, you should do this, man. It is the perfect thing to do.' And we are neutral, you know, there are all these geopolitical situations. We are a multi-racial country, we have many people of Indian and Chinese origins.

What made you bid for it?

First of all, I am a chess fan. I would love chess to be played in my country. But aside from my selfish reasons, I think that there are a lot of positive narratives for Singaporeans in general. We were confident of our bid because of the geopolitical thing, for one thing, and a neutral country. There were many discussions behind the scenes with FIDE, with my team, with my government.

The government was very supportive. Everyone was proud that we could bring the prestige of this event to Singapore. There were some downsides about bidding, too. What if the event turns out to be a disaster, organisational lapses could happen. What if the glass [wall] collapsed in the middle of the match? What if we couldn't handle the fans?

The fans, in fact, responded very well to the event, and the side-events, such as the simultaneous displays with some of the legends in the game, proved to be pretty popular.

Yes, [people like] Vishy [Anand] were gracious and generous with their time. So if you buy a VIP ticket, you literally walk in and you see Vishy on the couch.

And you got Google as the sponsor... There aren't too many bigger companies.

> [Playing Gukesh] was not a positive experience. But it was fun. As the game went on, I realised I had no idea what to do. He had very good manners, by the way. He still has

It was a conversation between me and Scott Beaumont, Google's president of Asia-Pacific, that got it going. So I had a common connection and somehow got in touch and then we spoke. This is great for chess. And it's great for Google as well, because, you know, there are so many connections between chess and AI.

And I thought he was pretty sold. In three days, he sent me an informal proposal. And that was it. I think that was a huge advantage that we had in our bid, because it shows that we have already secured some kind of in-principle support from a corporate giant.

I personally am a little bit disappointed that we couldn't get more corporate sponsors in. And that is something that we need to reflect on and ask ourselves what we could have done better. Apart from Google, we had World Resorts Sentosa and Academic Labs.

How did you think Singapore benefited from hosting the World Championship?

I think the exposure of chess, and hopefully that young players will be inspired to learn the game. More people are aware of the benefits of the game and they want to learn chess. And hopefully we can somehow get chess in schools.

Your reflections on the match, as a Grandmaster? It turned out to be much closer than most people – especially top chess players – anticipated.

I was with the majority. Everybody thought so. So it was a pleasant surprise [the way things went]. It could have led to the kind of massacre which many players have suggested. And we did not want the match to end the way the 2021 match between Magnus Carlsen and Ian Nepomniachtchi did. From a chess point of view, we had a great match.

And you have a special connection with Gukesh, haven't you?

That was not a positive experience. But it was fun.

You were one of the victims of Gukesh for his first Grandmaster norm, weren't you?

Yes, it was at the Bangkok Chess Open tournament in 2018. He didn't have a norm at the time

> Everyone was proud that we could bring the prestige of this event to Singapore. There were some downsides about bidding, too... What if the glass [wall] collapsed in the middle of the match?

[and I had two and was looking for my final norm]. I remember the game well. It was a London System, an opening featured at the World Championship here. I was playing white. So I went d4, d5, Bishop f4, Knight f6, e3, c5, Knight f3... As the game went on, I realised that it was not in my notes and I had no idea what to do. I reached some unpleasant isolated queen's pawn position and he just grinded, you know, the whole endgame. It was very impressive.

He was 12 then, wasn't he?

Yes.

Were you really surprised by the way he played in that game?

Yeah, very. And he had very good manners, by the way. He still has.

You probably could not have imagined that he would be playing for the World Championship and you would be hosting him...

Not even in my wildest dreams.

You were playing for Singapore at the Chennai Chess Olympiad, where Gukesh had his breakthrough performance, as he posted eight wins on the trot on the top board for India-2 and won the individual gold medal.

I noticed his fearlessness. The body language, the posture.... But there were some key advantages he had in that event. He had a bunch of friends, teammates around him. All of them were playing well. So this sort of energy is transferable. It could be like, you know, I have my friends next to me. They are all playing well. It gives me confidence.

That helped India at this year's Olympiad at Budapest, too.

Definitely. Because you see Arjun [Erigaisi] winning most of his games. R. Praggnanandhaa is solid, so is Vidit Gujrathi. P. Harikrishna never loses.

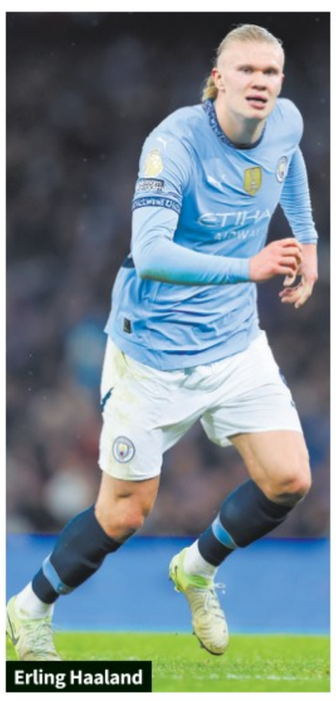
You yourself have had a rather long Olympiad career.

I have been playing 30 years of chess and 20 years of Olympiad, more or less, yeah. I have missed only a few since my first Olympiad in 2004. Now I am done, but I will always be a chess player at heart.

GAME THEORY

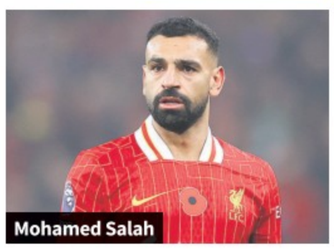
Premier League: goals vs. expected goals

Erling Haaland and Mohamed Salah lead the Premier League's goal-scoring chart so far this season, but the Liverpool winger is outperforming his expected goals (xG), unlike the Manchester City centre-forward. A look at the top goal-scorers in the English top division in 2024-25 and the margin between their tallies and the xG they have generated (xGDiff):

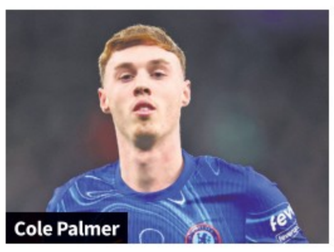


Erling Haaland

Player	Club	Games	Goals	xG	xGDiff
Erling Haaland	Man City	15	13	13.67	-0.67
Mohamed Salah	Liverpool	14	13	11.12	1.88
Cole Palmer	Chelsea	15	11	9.72	1.28
Chris Wood	N. Forest	15	10	6.52	3.48
Bryan Mbeumo	Brentford	15	9	4.33	4.67
Yoane Wissa	Brentford	12	9	6.69	2.31
Nicolas Jackson	Chelsea	14	8	7.69	0.31
Matheus Cunha	Wolves	15	7	3.41	3.59
Ollie Watkins	Aston Villa	15	7	10.38	-3.38
Alexander Isak	Newcastle	13	6	6.12	-0.12
Brennan Johnson	Tottenham	15	6	6.69	-0.69
Danny Welbeck	Brighton	14	6	6.29	-0.29
Jamie Vardy	Leicester	14	6	4.52	1.48
Jorgen Strand Larsen	Wolves	15	6	4.27	1.73
Liam Delap	Ipswich	15	6	6	0
Alex Iwobi	Fulham	15	5	2.68	2.32
Bukayo Saka	Arsenal	14	5	4.5	0.5
Dominic Solanke	Tottenham	12	5	6.97	-1.97
Harvey Barnes	Newcastle	15	5	2.51	2.49
James Maddison	Tottenham	15	5	4.45	0.55
Jhon Duran	Aston Villa	15	5	4.6	0.4
Justin Kluivert	Bournemouth	15	5	5.26	-0.26
Kai Havertz	Arsenal	14	5	7.01	-2.01
Luis Diaz	Liverpool	14	5	3.93	1.07
Noni Madueke	Chelsea	14	5	5.35	-0.35
Raul Jimenez	Fulham	15	5	5.96	-0.96



Mohamed Salah



Cole Palmer

Chris Wood

SOURCE: whoscored.com

PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

Treading snow

In this photograph, Germans Lucas Boegl and Florian Notz compete in the 20km free mass start event of the FIS World Cup Cross-Country Ruka in Finland earlier this month.

A mass start involves all skiers starting at the same time, the winner being the first one to cross the finish line. This differs from the individual start, in which skiers start one after the other in 30-second intervals; the winner is the skier who completes the course the fastest.

Cross-country skiing evolved from being a means of transport — several thousand years ago, as per historical evidence — to being both a recreational activity and a competitive sport. In cross-country, skiers can propel themselves in the classic style by striding forward, but the faster, more modern skate-skiing style, which involves side-to-side motion, is preferred.

Courses should test both the technical and physical abilities of the skiers and are typically laid out in a manner that best utilises the natural terrain. The ideal is to have smooth transitions among the uphills, downhills and undulating terrain.

State sees 50 lakh year-on-year increase in air passengers

In 2023-24, of the total 3.65 crore passengers, 3.51 crore were domestic passengers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka is third among States that witnessed a steep increase in air travel. In 2023-24, a total of 3.65 crore (3,65,06,323) passengers travelled by air from Karnataka, compared to 3.15 crore (3,15,05,960) passengers in 2022-23, a year-on-year increase of 50 lakh (50,00,363) passengers.

Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol provided data on States that saw the highest increase in air travel during the ongoing session of Parliament. Of the 3.15 crore passengers in 2022-23, three crore were domestic passengers, and 12 lakh were international passengers.

A file photo of Kempegowda International Airport.

Likewise, in 2023-24, of the total 3.65 crore passengers, 3.51 crore were domestic passengers, and 13 lakh were international passengers. Karnataka has nine airports, which are Kempegowda International Airport, Mangaluru International Airport, Belagavi, Hubballi, Mysuru, Shivamogga, Kalaburagi, Bidar and Vijayanagar airports. Among the States, Delhi topped the chart with 6.32 crore passengers in 2023-24 and 5.72 crore passengers in 2022-23, followed by Maharashtra's 5.9 crore passengers in 2023-24 and 5 crore passengers in 2022-23.

AR-powered device developed for those with low vision

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Those with low vision issues arising out of diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma and TB meningitis, among other conditions, find it challenging to navigate unfamiliar spaces, avoid obstacles, recognise faces or interact in public gatherings.

Bringing hope to those with such vision problems, doctors from the city-based Narayana Nethralaya have collaborated with SHG Technologies to develop a wearable device that will help those with low vision of any cause to navigate, read and visualise objects far and near.

The device 'Aura Vision' with multi-camera integrated augmented reality (AR) capability uses AR technology to assist individuals with various levels of vision impairment, said Naren Shetty, hospital vice-chairman.

Addressing perspersons here on Friday, Dr. Shetty said normal visual acuity is defined as 6/6, which means an individual can see clearly at a distance of six meters what a person with normal vision should see. Seetharam Muthangi, CEO and co-founder of SHG Technologies, "This device will be available in India at one-seventh the cost of its foreign counterparts."

Grameena Utsava today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The St. Joseph's Boys' High School is hosting *Grameena Utsava* on Saturday. St. Joseph's Boys' High School said in a release that *Grammea Utsava* aims to expose its urban students to the charms of village life. The variety of events includes rural games such as buguri and kunte bille, and programmes such as Hulivesha, Dollu Kunitha, Keel Kudre, Kamsale, Mallakamba, Yakshagana, Veeragase, Gangettu. The Grameena Utsava will be held on the SJBHS ground, from 9 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.

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17th ANNIVERSARY
A Symbol of Simplicity and Sacrifice
எளிமைக்கும் தியாகத்திற்கும் ஓர் உதாரணம்
Birth : 13.7.1948
Death : 14.12.2007
Tmt. K. Rajeswari, B.A.
w/o. G. Viswanathan
Trustee, VIT
(Prop. : Sri Ramajayam Motor Service, Vellore)
Always in your remembrance
G. Viswanathan
Chancellor, VIT
Sankar, Ramani, Kadhambari
Sekar, Sandhya, Nila
Selvam, Anusha, Sujan, Sabareesh, Rajeswari

26th ANNIVERSARY
19.09.1936
14.12.1998
Thiru. N.P.V. RAMASAMY UDAYAR
Founder - Chancellor,
Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research (DU)
You have proved that education alone
will not yield one's future.
Creativity, entrepreneurship, hard work and
relentless effort are all
necessary to become a leader.
The greatest wealth you have
left to this country is a
medical citadel (SRIHER) which has
paved the way for excellent
health care professionals.
On this day, we bow our head and
salute you for your formidable thought
and epoch making endeavour.
V.R. Venkataachalam
Chancellor, Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research (DU)
Family Members
Trustees, Sri Ramachandra Educational and Health Trust
Faculty, Staff & Students
SRI RAMACHANDRA
INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
(Category -I Deemed to be University) Porur, Chennai

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Man arrested for allegedly using illegal explosives

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Tumakuru Police have arrested 27-year-old 'Drone' Prathap for allegedly illegally using explosives.

In a video that has gone viral on social media, Prathap was seen throwing chunks of a paste in a plastic cover into a waterbody, causing loud explosions and sparking panic among people gathered in the area.

The incident took place in ID Halli Hobli in the limits of Medigeshi police station. Tumakuru police registered a suo motu case under the Explosives Act, 1959, and arrested 'Drone' Prathap.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, DEC. 14	
RISE 06:33	SET 17:56
RISE 16:54	SET 05:15
SUNDAY, DEC. 15	
RISE 06:34	SET 17:56
RISE 17:55	SET 06:20
MONDAY, DEC. 16	
RISE 06:34	SET 17:57
RISE 18:57	SET 07:24

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	28	24
Mysuru	27	20
Bengaluru	24	20

Bengaluru Today
24°C The dry weather to prevail. Morning will be slight cool. Day will be pleasant. Night also will be slight cool.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
27°C Rise in day temperature. The weather will be dry. Day will be comfortable. Night will be slight cool.

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THE HINDU
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Police book 827 cases of wheeling stunts in three years

A total fine amount of ₹58.19 lakh was collected in connection with these cases

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

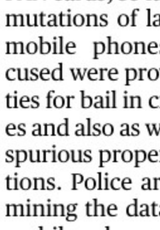
The Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) have booked 827 cases against offenders for performing wheeling stunts in the last three years.

During this period, the police arrested 683 bike riders and seized 677 vehicles. Among those arrested, 170 were minors.

A total fine amount of ₹58.19 lakh was collected in connection with these cases.

The police said several cases booked in 2024 are still pending in the court, and the fines collected are only expected to increase. In each case, the vehicle owners are fined up to ₹25,000.

Wheeling cases



Year	Cases registered	Persons arrested	Vehicles seized	Minors involved
2022	283	186	198	25
2023	219	214	209	70
2024	325	283	270	75
Total	827	683	677	170

Data shows that enforcement against offenders has increased in 2024 compared to previous years. In 2022, the police booked 283 cases, which decreased to 219 in 2023. However, so far this year, 325 cases have already been registered. City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda said on Friday that the police would carry out special drives to curb such incidents and increase enforcement against offenders.

"Four persons, who were recently arrested for performing wheeling stunts, were found to be under the influence of narcotics. We have booked them under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. We have also booked cases against guardians of minor offenders," he said.

The Police Commissioner appealed to everyone not to indulge in wheeling and to ensure their vehicles are not misused for the same. Wheeling can pose a risk to the lives of not only those who are doing it but also others on the road.

Meanwhile, as part of a special drive against wheeling offenders, the police booked 76 cases, arrested 56 bike riders, and seized 75 two-wheelers in the last 10 days. Of the 56 riders, 15 were found to be minors, and four of them were under the influence of narcotics.

Separate FIRs have been booked in these instances.

Atul Subhash suicide: Wife, family members abscond

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A team of Bengaluru city police, which had gone to Jaunpur in Uttar Pradesh in search of the accused in connection with techie Atul Subhash's suicide case, found that his wife and her family members were absconding.

The police have put a notice on the closed door of their house, asking the fleeing family to appear before them in the next three days for questioning.

Atul's wife Nikita Singhania, her mother Nisha Singhania, brother Anurag Singhania, and uncle Sushil Singhania, have been booked for abetment to suicide.

They are all listed as accused in the FIR registered at Marathahalli Police Station here.

A team of the city police reached Jaunpur on Thursday night, and they were reportedly coordinating with the local police to nab the accused. A video reportedly showing Atul Subhash's mother-in-law fleeing her house on a bike went viral on Thursday.

Denying rumours of the accused already being detained, City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda clarified on Friday that they were yet to make any arrests in the case. "Our team has reached Uttar Pradesh and efforts are on to track down the accused," he said.

From Page One

Actor Darshan, Pavithra Gowda get regular bail

The magistrates and judges in the district judiciary who exercise powers of remand should also record their satisfaction of compliance, or otherwise, of the requirement mandated under Section 50(1) of Code of Criminal Procedure (corresponding provision under Section 47 of BNSS, 2023) and Article 22(1) of the Constitution of India, without fail as held by the apex court in the Prabir Purkayasta's case, said Mr. Justice Shetty.

Trial court
While directing the accused to execute a personal bond for ₹1 lakh each with two sureties for the like sum, the High Court directed them appear regularly for trial court unless exempted for valid reasons.

They were also directed not to threaten or tamper with the prosecution witnesses, not involve in similar offences in future, and not leave the jurisdiction of the trial court without permission until the criminal case is adjudicated. .

On the allegation that accused had intended to murder, the court said that "from the nature of weapons used by the accused persons to assault the deceased, it cannot be said that they had prepared themselves to assault Renukaswamy and commit his murder.

Therefore, whether the accused persons really had the intention to commit the murder of Renukaswamy would be a question that may have to be considered by the trial Court during the course of trial."

Charge of kidnap
On the charge of kidnap, the High Court said that since Renukaswamy had voluntarily accompanied four of the accused to Bengaluru, the question whether Renukaswamy was kidnapped or abducted for the purpose of committing his murder also arises for consideration, which needs to be thrashed out in the full-fledged trial.

The High Court also noted that statements of some of the eye-witnesses relating to the overt acts of the accused suffers from contradictions.

Fake surety ring busted, 13 arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru City Police have busted a ring that was allegedly providing fake sureties for bail and property registrations. In connection with the case, 13 people were arrested.

Acting on a tip-off that a group of five persons were standing outside ACMM Court on Nrupatunga Road with fake Aadhaar cards and other documents offering people fake sureties for the accused for bail in the court for a price, Halasuru Gate Police rushed to the spot and arrested them. Their interrogation revealed they were more involved in the case. Police arrested seven more from Mysore Bank Circle and one from a cyber centre from Majestic.

Police have recovered 139 fake Aadhaar cards, 43 fake ration cards, 16 fake PAN cards, 35 fake RTC and mutations of lands and 12 mobile phones. The accused were providing sureties for bail in criminal cases and also as witnesses for spurious property registrations. Police are now examining the data on all the mobile phones to check who has availed of their services.

The arrested have been identified as Dada Hayath Khalandar, 42, Swaroop S., 40, Chandrashekhar, 29, Kumar Velu S., 46, Santosh Kumar, 36, Doddaiah, 53, Manoj K, 26, N. Anand, 27, Indresh N., 29, Anandkumar, 40, Manjunath, 38, Kempegowda, 38 and Vinayaka Kudroli, 21, all hailing from Bengaluru. None of them had any cases registered against them before this.

PG medical seat allocation on Dec. 14, 16 for in-service doctors

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

It will be conducted in two stages, as the doctors have been divided into senior and junior doctors

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) announced the schedule for the seat allocation process for the post-graduate medical course under the in-service category.

It will be conducted in two stages, as the doctors have been divided into senior and junior doctors. The seat allocation for senior doctors will take place on December 14, while the allocation for junior doctors will take place on December 16.

On December 14, the original document verification will be held at 10 a.m. at the KEA office, and option entry will be allowed until 11 a.m. The seat allocation will be completed on the same day.

For junior doctors, while the document verification will take place on December 16, KEA officials said that the seat allocation process will also be completed on the same day if possible.

A total of 84 doctors – 24 in the senior group and 60 in the junior group – have been deemed eligible for the PG medical course under the in-service category. In total, 354 PG medical seats are available, according to KEA authorities.

ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ ತಾಳಿಕೋಟಿ

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕೃ.ಉ.ಮಾ.ಸ.(ತಾ)/ಅಭಿಕೆ/410/2024-25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 11/12/2024

ಃ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಃ

2024-25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮುದ್ದೇಬಿಹಾಳ ಉಪ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಪ್ರಾಂಗಣದ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹೆಸರು	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟಮೊತ್ತ ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ. ಹೊರತು ಪಡಿಸಿ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಪ್ರಿಬಿಡ್ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	
					ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್	ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್
1.	Supplying, Installing, Testing, Commissioning, Stamping as per Technical Specification of Electronic Weigh bridge (80MT Capacity) including all necessary Civil (Foundation, Ramp, Control room, Approach road etc.,) AT SMY MUDDEBIHAL OF APMC_TALIKOTE	52.63	24/12/2024 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ	30/12/2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ	01/01/2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ	10/01/2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಷರತ್ತು ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ 13-12-2024 ರಿಂದ ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಿಂದ ಡೌನಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ರಜಾ ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ, ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯವರಿಂದ ಅಥವಾ http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ 080-22501216/25501227 ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಕೃಉಮಾಸ, ತಾಳಿಕೋಟಿ

ಸಹಿ/- ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ಕೃಉಮಾಸ, ತಾಳಿಕೋಟಿ

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2024-25

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, रामगढ़।

शुद्धि–पत्र

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि इस प्रमण्डल द्वारा आमंत्रित ई–अति अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या– RE-01/RDSD/RAMGARH/02/MMGSY/2024-25 योजना का नाम:– रामगढ़ जिला के गोला प्रखण्ड के ग्राम– बारघुटू से बाधाकुदर के बीच पाटासुर नाला में पुल निर्माण। एवं रामगढ़ जिला के गोला प्रखण्ड के बेटुल से बन्दराचुँआ के बीच गोमती नदी पर पुल निर्माण। जिसका PR No.– 340900 (Rural Work Development) 24-25 (D) में प्रकाशित निविदा को अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्न रूपेण संशोधित किया गया है :–

1. वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि :– दिनांक 05.12.2024
2. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :– दिनांक 20.12.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।
3. ई–निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय– 23.12.2024 अपराह्न 02:00 बजे।

शेष सभी यथावत् है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल,
रामगढ़।

PR 341915 (District) 24-25 (D)

Government of Odisha "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-mail : ceworldbankprojects@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CE-Bridges - 11 / 2024-25

1. The Chief Engineer (Bridges), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road & Bridge work as detailed below :

2. Nature of work	:	**Bridge / Road works**
3. No. of work	:	**03 Nos.**
4. Tender cost	:	**Rs.10,000.00 (on-line)**
5. Class of Contractor	:	**Special / Super Class Contractor**
6. Available of bid document in the website	:	**From 10.00 AM of 17.12.2024 to 5.00 PM of 08.01.2025**
7. Date of opening of Bid	:	**Dt.09.01.2025 at 11.30 AM**

8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website : **https://tenderodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Bridges, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
B-754 OIPR-34174/11/0024/2425

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001. Ph: 080 25310066
E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **04.01.2025 (10.00 AM to 10.30 AM),** for recovery of **Rs. 2076289176.00/-** as on **13.12.2024** with further interest and cost thereon due to the ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from **1) M/S Cadryche Automation and Office Solution Private Limited,** No.32, 1st Floor, 50 Feet Road, 11th Main, Raghavendra Block Srinagar, Bengaluru-560050, Karnataka. **2. Sri. Krishnamurthy V Udupa,** No.33/12, 2nd Floor, 3rd Cross, 4th Main Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560050, Current address: No.57, Shop Street, NR Colony, Basavangudi, Bengaluru-560004. **3. Smt. Jyothi Krishna Murthy,** No 970/321 1st Floor, 50 Feet Road, 11th Main, Raghavendra Block Srinagar, Bengaluru Karnataka-560050. **Current address,** No.57, Shop Street, NR Colony,Basavangudi, BENGALURU 560004. **4.Smt. Raksha K Udupa,** No.33/12 2nd Floor, 3rd Cross, 4th Main, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560018. **Current address:** Sri V Krishna Murthy Udupa, No.57, Shop Street, NR Colony, Basavangudi, Bengaluru 560004. **5.Ms Indira V Raj,** No 57 Shop Street N R Colony, Basavanagudi, Bangalore, Karnataka-560004.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **03.01.2025 at 5.00 pm:-** **(Rs. in lakhs)**

Lot No	Description of the immovable/movable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental value at Bid
1	Residential property bearing No. 40 [PID NO. 49-92-40] 4th main road, Gavipuram extension Hanumanthanagar Bangalore – 560019 standing in the name of Smt Raksha K w/o Mr. V Krishna Murthy Udupa (Director) measuring site area – 1441 sq ft, plinth area (SBA) 3600 sq ft comprising GF+FF+SF. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 12.56405N, Longitude- 77.33517E.**	₹. 263.00	₹.26.30	1.00
2	Residential property No.57 & 57/1, Old No. 14, Old Ward No. 32, New Ward No. 51, PID No.51-8-57 and 51-8-57/1 at shop Street N.R. Colony Bangalore standing in the name Smt Raksha K Udupa w/o Mr. V Krishna Murthy Udupa (Director) with site area of 1300 sq ft, plinth (SBA) – 3000 sq ft (GF+FF). **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 12.942296, Longitude- 77.550405**	₹. 304.00	₹.30.40	1.00
3	Property for industrial purpose for ware house situated at 2nd floor, bearing no 33/12, Old No 26, New No 33, PID No 46-6-33/12, 3rdCross, 4th main road, Chamrajpet Bangalore (built up area of flat 1500 sqft- UDS-500 sq ft) standing in the name of Smt. Jyothi Krishna Murthy Upadhya. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 12.57279N, Longitude- 77.34026E.**	₹. 111.00	₹.11.10	1.00
4	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site Nos. 73,74,75,81,82,83,84,85,86 formed in Sy No 108 of Nagrur Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk-562123. Katha Nos, 748, 749 & 750 Sy No. 108 Standing in the name of Mr. V Krishna Moorthy Udupa Measuring 12000 Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 13.08669, Longitude- 77.42179.**	₹. 300.00	₹.30.00	1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 9627872626,7483935007,9538406090 and 9598559920 during office hours on any working day.

Date : 13.12.2024
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur
(Govt. Autonomous Institution)
Justice Shivaraj Patil Road, Raichur. Phone /Fax-08532-238488/89
Web. www.rimsraichur.karnataka.gov.in Email info@rims-raichur.com

No: RIMS(RGSSH)/Adm/2024-25/ Date: 11.12.2024

INTERVIEW NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the following posts for contractual recruitment for interim period. The Interview will be conducted at Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur

Sl.No.	Name of the Post	Qualification	Department	No. of Posts
1	Assistant Professor	MCH/DNB	Surgical Oncology	01
2	Assistant Professor	DM/DNB	Medical Oncology	01
3	Assistant Professor	MCH/DNB	Plastic Surgery	01
4	Assistant Professor	MCH/DNB	Paediatric Surgery	01
5	Assistant Professor	MCH/DNB	Neuro Surgery	01
6	Assistant Professor	MD/DNB	Anaesthesia	01
			Total	06

1) Candidates should have one of the recognized Superspeciality Graduate Qualification i.e., DM/MCH/DNB in concerned superspeciality OR MS/MD in Broad speciality concerned and 03 years working experience in concerned Superspeciality as applicable as per NMC regulations (including amendments). 2) Candidates are instructed to come along with all the Original Certificates with 2 sets Xerox copies .3) Selection committee has right to select or reject any candidate without assigning any reason.4) Consolidated pay for Assistant Professor Rs.1,10,000/- 5) Candidates shall send their duly filled application forms & other relevant attachments duly attested by competent authority by post or by muddam to the office of Director, Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur - 584102, on or before 26.12.2024 4:00 PM. For more details on Notification & Application forms visit the Institute website https://rimsraichur.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Director
DIP/RCR/595/KSMC&A/596/2024-25 **Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences Raichur**

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda
Vanivilas Branch
#69, Kanakapura Road, V V Puram, Basavanagudi, Bangalore, Karnataka-560 004| 080-26614099, 080-26620783 | vjvani@bankofbaroda.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **Bank of Baroda,** under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **01.01.2024** calling upon the **Borrower, 1. Smt. Rekha KN** W/o. B S Prasanna Babu, 17, 1st 'C' Main road, 2nd Phase, Girinagar, Bangalore-560085, **Also at:** No.34 1st D Main 2nd Phase, Girinagar, Bangalore-560085, **2. Sri.B.S.Prasanna Babu, (Co-Borrower)** S/o. Late. Srinivasa shetty, No.87 Gandhi Bazar, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004, **Also at:** No.34 1st D Main 2nd Phase, Girinagar, Bangalore-560085. **3. Smt.B K Raja lakshmi, (Guarantor)** W/o B.S.Krishna Shetty, Prop.Jyothi Arecanuts, No.318, Avalahalli, BDA Extn, BSK II Stage, Bangalore-560085, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 7,14,709.30/-** (Rupees Seven Lakh Fourteen Thousand Seven Hundred Nine & Thirty Paise Only) and interest thereon at the contractual rate plus cost, charges and expenses within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub section (4) of Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 on this **13th day of December of the year 2024.**

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Bank of Baroda** for an amount of **Rs. 7,14,709.30/-** (Rupees Seven Lakh Fourteen Thousand Seven Hundred Nine & Thirty Paise Only) and interest thereon at the contractual rate plus cost, charges and expenses till date of payment.

The borrower's attention is invited to sub-section (8) of Section 13 in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Property

All that piece and parcel of the residential bearing site no.17 situated at 1st C main road Girinagar 2nd phase, Bangalore-560085. Measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 50 feet and bounded by: East by : Property No. 15, West by : Property No. 13, South by : 30 Feet Road, North by : Property No. 09.

Date : 13.12.2024
Place : Bengaluru
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Bank of Baroda

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

First FIR related to alleged COVID-19 scam registered

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The first case related to the alleged scam and irregularities in managing the COVID-19 pandemic in Karnataka was registered at the Vidhana Soudha Police Station on Friday.

M. Vishnu Prasad, the incumbent Chief Financial Officer, Directorate of Medical Education, Karnataka, lodged a complaint with the police on Friday alleging that former Director, DME, P.G. Girish, officers Ragu G.P. and N. Muniraju, colluded with "other government officers and people's representatives", violated Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act, 1999, and procured N95 masks and PPE kits causing a total

A file photo of N95 mask.

estimated loss of ₹167 crore to the State's exchequer. However, no politicians have been specifically named in the FIR as accused.

SIT

In November, the State Cabinet decided to form a Special Investigation Team led by an Inspector General of Police-rank officer to probe alleged irregularities in the management of the pandemic in the State, uncovered by the Justice John Michael D'Cunha report. The first part of the report was submitted to the State government in August.

The report recommends prosecution against not only several government officials but also former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa and former Health Minister B. Sriramulu.

Orders constituting an SIT can be issued only by transferring a specific FIR to the SIT.

For this technicality, an FIR has been registered. An order constituting the SIT is expected to be issued by Monday.

NASA delegation visits city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A National Aeronautics and Space Administration delegation recently visited Bengaluru to meet students and strengthen collaborative ties with the Indian Space Research Organisation. The visit was part of outreach events aimed to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers by providing insights into space exploration and scientific research.

NASA Director of the Flight Operations Directorate, Norman Knight, Chief Astronaut Joe Acaba, and Chief Flight Director Emily Nelson were among the officials who visited the city. The NASA specialists spoke about human spaceflight and why international cooperation is important for space exploration.

Engineer arrested for stealing jewellery

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An engineer has been arrested for allegedly stealing gold ornaments from his friend's house, where he had gone to have a party. The arrested has been identified as Bharath, 25, an aeronautical engineer working at a private company and a resident of Uttarahalli.

The complainant in the case, a businessman and resident of Uttarahalli, had gone to attend a marriage in Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh, in the first week of December. His son, who was at home, called two of his friends home and had a party. The friends went out for a film the next day, locking the house.

After he returned from the marriage, the businessman found the gold ornaments missing.

Subramanyapura police probing the case questioned both the friends who were at the party and Bharath reportedly confessed to the crime.

Police have recovered 453 grams of gold ornaments worth ₹35 lakh from his flat.

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CARMELARAM 9686636482 | DERLAKATTE 78997 96899 | ELECTRONIC CITY080-4096 7487 / 7406242999 | FORUM FALCON CITY MALL 080-5004 4944 | FIZA BY NEXUS MALL 82967 17007 | GARUDA MALL 99165 53030 | JP NAGAR 4th PHASE 080-4099 9640 / 98440 11055 | JP NAGAR 6th PHASE 74839 95164 | NEXUS MALL KORAMANGALA, 080-22067735 / 080 22067736 | LULU MALL 080-61035666/67 | HARLUR 9164929394 | HSR LAYOUT 98454 57819 | HOODI 99165 57070 | HSR LAYOUT 2 76763 63520 | INDIRANAGAR 9739060171 JAYANAGAR 9739647617 | KALYAN NAGAR 9844011099 | KORAMANGALA, SONY 080-43758599 | KORAMANGALA,8TH BLOCK 080-6878 5286 / 70262 28008 | KATHRIGUPPE 96115 80294 KASAVANAHALLI 98866 89140 | KADUGODI 89519 26869 | KADUBEESNALLI 636455 4220 | LAVELLE ROAD 7066644644 | MAHADEVAPURA 99012 45875 | MANGALURU 082-42953295 | MANGALURU 2 81974 56678 | MARATHAHALLI 99867 40606 | MANTRI SQUARE MALL 080-22667176/08030160066/98440 11344 | MEENAKSHI MALL 7353588999 | MYSURU 9606571295 | MANGALURU, CITY CENTRE 76766 09007 | NEXUS SHANTHINIKETAN MALL 080 25018335 / 080-25018336 | NEW BEL ROAD 9538387670 | NEXUS MALL MYSURU 89712 78055 | PHOENIX MARKET CITY 80672 66643 | MERCHANT PHOENIX MALL OF ASIA 080-6857 2699 | RAGHUVANAHALLI 91080 21355 | VARATHUR 89042 64477 | SAHAKAR NAGAR 080-2973 7373 SARJAPUR ROAD 6364428899 | SIDDAPURA WHITEFIELD 9591674477 / 080-49754477 | SOBHA MALL 97400 81222 | RAMAMURTHY NAGAR 9901589899 | RAJAJI NAGAR 4317 99447 | ULSOOR 96869 65233 | UDUPI 8072750755 | VIDYARANYAPURA 99622 33226 | VR MALL, BENGALURU 98440 11212 | WHITEFIELD 99007 40000 | WHITEFIELD NEXUS MALL 70900 01755 | YELAHANKA 98800 35909
FOR FRANCHISE & BUSINESS ENQUIRY, CALL: +91-9176840500/9962854265

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the general public that, my client **Srinivasa Ranganayaki,** residing at 59/1, north chithra street, Srirangam, Tiruchirappalli, - 620006, while in transit near J.P. Nagar 5th Phase, Bangalore has lost the **original Sale Deed registered in the name of Sri. Ajay R. Koppar, vide Document No.14339/2002-03,** Book 1, dt:23-01-2003 registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk. In this connection, my client has lodged a police complaint to the Karnataka State Police (U/s 155 CrPC) Lost Article **Report Serial No.1379579,** Police Unit : Bangalore City, Lost Report No.1379579/2024, dt:12-12-2024. Hence, if anybody finds the said Document please inform/return to the below address within **7 days.**

Srinivasa S.A., Advocate
No.79/B, 7th Main, 50 feet Road,
BSK 1st Stage, Bangalore-560 050.
Mob: 9008003449
E-mail : srinilegals@gmail.com
Place : Bangalore Date : 13-12-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public are hereby informed that, our clients have proposed to purchase the Schedule property from its present owner **Smt.N.Shantha Bai W/o.Sri.Gopal Singh** Person/s, Financial Institution/s, Bank objecting for the proposed purchase or having any right, share, title and interest in the Schedule property may lodge their objections/claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **7 days** from this day of publication and any objection /claims received thereafter will not be binding on our clients and our clients will proceed to purchase the below mentioned Schedule property as if there are no claims/objections.

-:SCHEDULE PROPERTY:-

All that piece and parcel of an immovable residential property bearing **Site No.24,** Dasarahalli Gramathana Khatha Serial No.1619, erstwhile Dasarahalli Nagar Sabha Ward No.14, now comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP and having Ward No.15, Situated at **Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** measuring East to West :45 Ft. and North to South: 30 Ft. totally measuring **1350 Sq.Ft.,** and bounded on : **East by: Site No.27 belongs to Syed Mohammed, West by: Road, North by: Site No.25 belongs to Syed Rashid, South by: Site No.23 belongs to Abdul Karim, With about 500 Sq.Ft. on the Ground** constructed residential building with brick walls, Mosaic Flooring, Jungle wood doors and windows with electricity, Water and sanitary amenities.

V.S.Rai & Associates, LAW FIRM
No. 23, "Venkatadri" 6th Main,
5th Cross, S.R.Nagar, Bangalore-560027.
Ph : **98441 55041, 9620579310**

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
PHASED ARRAY ULTRASONIC TESTING OF WELDED JOINTS

Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Central Railway, Solapur on Behalf of The President of India, invites e-tender from the reputed firms / contractor for the following works: **Tender Notice No.: 88-2024-SrDENC. Name of Work :** Phased Array Ultrasonic Testing (PAUT) of 60 kg FB welded joints on running line using RDSO verified PAUT weld tester under ADEN KLBG Sub divisions in Solapur Division of CR for a Period of one year (Re-invitation). **Approximate Cost of the Work:** ₹ 1,24,93,434.80. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 2,12,500/-. **Completion Period of the Work:** 12 Months. **Maintenance Period:** Nil. **Last Date and Time of Uploading quoted Tender on www.ireps.gov.in website: 17/01/2025** upto **15.00 Hrs. Date & Time of Opening of Tender on www.ireps.gov.in: 17/01/2025** at **15.30 Hrs.** The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website frequently before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender. Website: **www.ireps.gov.in**

DRM (W)
Solapur

रेलवे फाटक को बंद स्थिति में पार करना मना है
SM/SUR/34

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Founder, Chancellor, VIT University.

Dr. **G.V. Sampath**
(Founder - Chairman - Naruvi Hospitals)

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THE HINDU GROUP
TO THE YOUNGEST KING OF CHESS
18-year-old D. Gukesh is now the youngest and eighteenth World Chess Champion. Last night, he brought back the title that India last held in 2013. All it took was 58 moves and a decade of dedication. His win is not just a testament to his dreams - it's also a remarkable reflection of India's growing prowess in the game of 64 squares.
CONGRATULATIONS
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(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka undertaking)

Corpporate office, Navanagar, PB Road, Hubballi-580025
Mob.:9449057833, Fax: 0836-2324307 e-mail:seepmc.hescom@gmail.com

Corporate Identity Number CIN: U31401KA2002SGC030437

No: HESCOM/SEE(PMC)/EE-P2/AEE-2/2024-25/OYS-6545 Date: 13/12/2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP Portal Only)

Superintending Engineer (Ele), Projects Monitoring Cell, Corporate Office, HESCOM, Hubballi invites Re-tenders for (Project-03 & 12) "Selection of Solar Power Generators (SPGs) on the basis of Build Own & Operate (BOO) for Design, Survey, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance of grid connected distributed solar power plants for solarization of selected Agri feeders at Sub-Station (SS) level in HESCOM jurisdiction totally covering approximate 44,052 IP sets, its associated 11kV line to connect the plant with concerned SS and Remote Monitoring System (RMS) of solar power plants through RESCO mode, for 25 years under Component C-Feeder Level Solarization of PM-KUSUM scheme"vide Indent No: HESCOM/2024-25/SE0331

The detailed notification regarding the bid enquiry can be obtained by logging in to the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 14.12.2024**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele), Project Monitoring Cell, HESCOM, Hubli

DIPR/DHARWAD/733/Adverto/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
(CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP)

Plot No.12&13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-58.
Fax: 080-28094180, Ph: 080-28094182, 4541

CORRIGENDUM-I Dated: 12.12.2024

On behalf of President of India, **item rate E-tender** is invited from Contractors of appropriate class for following works.

NIT No.	**ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/E-Tender-60/2024-25 dated: 21.11.2024**
Name of work	**Providing redundant power supply to main LT Panel, 63A STS, CCTV & VSAT antennas at ISTRAC Ground Station, Port Blair.**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 14.77 Lakhs**
Tender Document details	**E-Tender**
Period of Completion	**Two (02) months**
Period during which tender documents can be downloaded	From 16.00 hrs. on 22.11.2024 to 07.12.2024 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 21.12.2024 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Bid clarifications	From 11.00 hrs. on 23.11.2024 to 08.12.2024 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 22.12.2024 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Last date of reply to Bid clarification	09.12.2024 up to 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 23.12.2024 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Last date & time for receipt of tenders	10.12.2024 up to 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 24.12.2024 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Due date & time of opening of tenders	12.12.2024 up to 11.00 hrs. **Extended up to 26.12.2024 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 29,540/-**

Interested tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender** (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head-CMG

Office of the Executive Officer,
Mysore Palace Board, Mysore
Phone: 0821-2421051, Fax: 2434425,
e-mail : ddmysorepalace@gmail.com,
Tender Number: EO/MPB/DD/Civil/Tender-06(Call-2)/2024-25 Dated: 10.12.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only- Two cover System)

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, Deputy Director, Mysore Palace Board, Mysuru Invites the Tender for "Right to collect parking fees for vehicles parked at the Mysore Palace Parking Area" for total amount of Rs.145.50 Lakhs from Eligible Vendors / Bidders / Agencies / Firms who have executed similar type of works in Highly sensitive areas as per Tender Document in Two Cover System. a) Last date and time for receipt of tenders through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only: 26/12/2024 upto 16:00:00 hrs, b) Time and date of opening of Technical Bid: 27/12/2024 after 16:30:00 hrs. **Details regarding the work and tender document may be obtained through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Any clarification regarding details of the work, or any other aspects of the above tender can be had by contacting the office of the Deputy Director, Mysuru Palace Board, Mysuru during the office hours.**

Sd/- Deputy Director, Mysore Palace Board, Mysuru

DIPR/DDMYS-951/KSMCA-640/2024-25

Department of Women and Child Development and Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens
Office of the Secretary to Government, 1st Floor, M.S.Building, Bengaluru-560001.

Notification No: DWCD/2024-25/IND0057 Date:12-12-2024

TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF PRE SCHOOL KIT FOR THE YEAR 2024-25
(Karnataka Public Procurement mode only, Two cover System)

Department of Women and Child Development hereby invites technical and financial tenders (Two cover System) from officially registered and eligible suppliers supply of Pre School Kit to Anganwadi Centers (AWCs) in the State of Karnataka. Interested bidders shall submit the bids through Government of Karnataka's Karnataka Public Procurement portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Tenderer shall deposit the EMD in accordance with the tender document.

1) Tender document available for download: **Date: 12/12/2024.**
2) Pre-bid meeting Date: **16/12/2024 at 2.00 p.m.**
3) Last date and Time for uploading online queries in Karnataka Public Procurement portal Date: **23/12/2024 up to 5 .00 p.m.**
4) Last date for receipt of Tender Date: **10/01/2025 by 5.00 p.m.**
5) Opening of Technical bid Date:**13/01/2025 by 11.00 a.m.**
6) Tentatively fixed date for opening of financial bid after verification of documents submitted in technical bid Date: **16/01/2025 by 11.00 a.m.**

Copies of tender announcement and tender documents are available from (a) Tender inviting authority – Joint Director, Department of Women and Child Development, Bengaluru (b) State Tender Bulletin Officer – Deputy Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development and Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Bengaluru. Further details may be obtained from the office of the Joint Director (ICDS), Department of Women and Child Development, Anand Rao circle, Bangalore (Tel No: 080-22353780).

Sd/- Deputy Secretary to Government and State Tender Bulletin Officer.

DIPR/CP/JA/3781/2024-25

Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar (MP)
(A Central University)

The 33rd Convocation of Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar, MP will be held in February, 2025. All Graduate, Post Graduate, Ph.D., D.Sc and D.Litt. candidates (Regular) are requested to register themselves online for the award of Degree in the Convocation at University Website **www.dhsgsu.edu.in** or **dhsgsu.samarth.edu.in/convocation** from 21 December, 2024 to 20 January, 2025. Details can be seen on University Web Portal **www.dhsgsu.edu.in**

Controller of Examinations(I/c)

Government of Karnataka
KARNATAKA FOREST DEPARTMENT
KUNDAPURA DIVISION, KUNDAPURA

No:C2.CR/49/Timber Auction/24-25 Date: 02-12-2024

KARNATAKA FOREST CODE, 1976
APPENDIX XVIII A (Rule 64)

Detailed Notification for e-Tender cum Auction of Timber in Vandse, Hardalli-Mandalli, Seethanadi, Hosmar depot of Kundapura Division, Kundapura

It is hereby notified for the general information of the public that, timber and other forest produce stocked and lotted in the **Vandse, Hardalli-Mandalli, Seethanadi, Hosmar** Government Timber Depot of **Kundapura Division** will be sold through the public e-tender cum auction method in one or more sessions on **Hardalli-Mandalli 01-01-2025, Seethanadi 01-01-2025 and 02-01-2025, Hosmar 03-01-2025 and Vandse 06-01-2025** from 10 A.M till the bidding for all lots is completed. The Sale Conducting Officer will be the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Kundapur Division.

Sd/- Deputy Conservator of Forests, Kundapura Division, Kundapura

DIPR/ADU/KSMCA/545/24-25 Dt. 13.12.2024

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Chief Commissioner,
Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/2626/2024-25 **FORM - III (See Sub-rule (3) of rule-3)** **Date: 13-12-2024**

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act 1961** the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by **The Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for Formation of Road from Hoodi Railway Station to Kumbena Agrahara Via Sadaramangala as per RMP-2015 and for a Length of 2.80 Kms, for implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan - 2015 for the width of 18.00 Mtrs.**

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition Officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of Land / Building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District: **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk: **Bengaluru East** Name of the Village: **Sadaramangala**

Sl. No.	Sy.No/ Khatha No.	Type of Land		Nature of Land			Dimension of the Land/ Plot & Extent in Sq.m		Boundaries of the Land / Plot				Building Details			Present Activity on Land/Building (Specify Specific activity such as Shop, Office, Factory, Apartment, Individual House etc.,	Market (guide -lines) value of the land Per Sq.m	Name and address of the owner of the Plot / Land for which DRC is to be issued
		Vacant	Built up	Agriculture	Converted undeveloped	Approved Layout / Developed Land Building Site	Dimension	Extent	North	South	East	West	Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. of Floors	Floor Area Ratio			
1	Sy. No. 59/2, BBMP Khatha Sl.No: 1412	Vacant Land			Converted Land		1209.16 Sqm		Remaining Portion of Sy.No. 59/2	Sadaramangala - Kodigehalli Road	Road	Sy.No. 59/1	None	None	None	Vacant	60,500/- per Sqm	Sri K.A. Manjunath S/o Late. K.G. Adaveeshaiah, Residing at Kaggadasapura, C.V. Ramannagar, Bengaluru - 560093

Note: Market guideline value of this property is considered subject to conditions of payment of fee as per Government Order No: ನಲಇ 137 ಎಂಎನ್‌ಯು 2024 (ಇ), ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.09.2024 and as per the Circular No: ಆಯುಕ್ತರು/ಪ.ಎಸ್.ಆರ್/ಜಿ/1802/2024–25, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.09.2024.

Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub Divisional / Branch Office	Deputy Commissioner, Land Acquisition & TDR, 2nd Floor, Room No. 208, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bengaluru - 560002.

Sd/-
Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

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Advertisement No. 08/2024

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4	3D Animator Assistant	600 Hrs	10th + 2
5	3D Printing	96 Hrs	10th + 2
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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

OPEN TENDER NOTICE NO 30/SBC/24 of 09.12.2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites open tender through e-tendering via www.ireps.gov.in for the under mentioned work.

SL	Description of Work	Approx. Value
1	Bengaluru - Mysuru section: **Sub Work-I**: Through ballast recoupment for a length of **43.20kms** from km 62/000 -101/700 on up and km 81/750-85/250 Down line. **Sub Work-II:** Through Ballast Recoupment - 0.8 Tkm (loop lines) and 16 nos.points and crossings.	**Rs. 1,77,47,762/-**
2	Bengaluru Division: Balance work of Replacement of steel girder with PSC Slab for Bridge No. 550 at km 45/400-500 between Ramanagaram (RMGM) - Channapatna (CPT) stations in Bengaluru - Mysuru Section. Maintenance period is 3 months.	**Rs. 1,98,31,792/-**
3	Bengaluru Division: **Sub Work-I:** Bangaluru City -Mysuru Section: Extension of High Level platforms to operate 24 coach length trains at Bidadi (BID) and Maddur (MAD) stations. **Sub Work-II:** KSR Bengaluru: Renovation of General waiting hall for Gents and ladies at Platform-1, AC waiting hall at Platform-1, Platform-7 and 8 at KSR Bengaluru station. **Sub Work-III:** KSR Bengaluru: Proposed water proofing treatment to station building and replacement of damaged gutters at KSR Bengaluru station. Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later.	**Rs. 2,19,96,594/-**
4	Bangaluru - Jolarpettai section: Construction of boundary wall for a length of 39.05 km In connection with the work of increasing speed from 110kmph to 130kmph. Maintenance period is 12 months.(Two Packet)	**Rs. 23,71,86,075/-**
5	Bengaluru Division: Unloading of P.Way Materials at P.Way/ Depot/Baiyyappanahalli in SSE/P.Way/Bengaluru Section.	**Rs. 9,05,550/-**
6	Bengaluru - Sampige road section : Proposed construction of Road Under Bridge of size 1x6x3m in lieu of LC No. 50 at km 85/800-900 between Mallasandra (MLSA) - Gubbi (GBB) station for double track. Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later.	**Rs. 5,91,42,297/-**

Last date of submission of bid: **Upto 15.00 hrs on 01.01.2025**
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

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Presiding Officer/Member 1
For School Management

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND NEURO SCIENCES, (Institute of National Importance)
BANGALORE 560029 (ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT) Ph:080-26995215

Ref. No: NIMH/ENG/HOES/2456/2024-25 Date: 13/12/2024

TENDER NOTICE (e-procurement)

Tenders on an item rate basis are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Director, NIMHANS, Bangalore for the following works (indents) on the e-procurement platform http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from the eligible contractors from KPWD / CPWD/CEIG with e-procurement Registration of Government of Karnataka e-portal only and last date for uploading tender is on 23/12/2024 up to 4.00 pm. **Note: GST will be paid separately on tendered / bill amount.**

SL No	Indent No.
1	NIMHANS/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT22
2	NIMHANS/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT23
3	NIMHANS/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT24
4	NIMHANS/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT25
5	NIMHANS/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT26
6	NIMHANS/2024-25/SE0001

For information, Please visit NIMHANS website: www.nimhans.ac.in and on e-procurement platform http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

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शुद्धि पत्र

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		पूर्व में प्रकाशित	संशोधित
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KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT,
Revenue Department, M. S. Building, Bengaluru

NO: E-RD 155 GRC 2024 **Date:09.12.2024.**

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, upon considering the report of the Superintendent of Police Economic Offences, CID Bangalore and Police Inspector CT & R Division CID, Bengaluru and after due investigation of the complaints of depositors it has come to the notice of the Government, that Sri SrishailagiriSouhardha Credit Co-operative Limited, Bengaluru, is involved in fraudulent transactions by clandestinely and illegally collecting deposits or money from the general public and thereafter have failed to return the same either after maturity or on demand made by the depositors or complainants with promised interest and other assured benefits and thereby have failed to render the services promised to them.

And whereas, it has further come to the notice of the Government that Sri SrishailagiriSouhardha Credit Co-operative Limited, Bengaluru, and people associating with them have been acquiring lands, movable and immovable properties, cash and others from and out of the deposits or money so collected, from the depositors or complainants and thereby deviating from the intended purposes of accepting the deposits or money.

And whereas, the Government has reason to believe that the actions of Sri SrishailagiriSouhardha Credit Co-operative Limited, Bengaluru, and people associating with them are acting in and detrimental to the interest of the depositors or complainants whose intention was to defraud the innocent depositors, and it has become necessary to protect the interest of the depositors of Sri SrishailagiriSouhardha Credit Co-operative Limited, Bengaluru.

And whereas, now the Government after considering the report of the Special Officer and Competent Authority IMA and other KPID Scam Cases, and after satisfying itself about the urgent need to protect the interest of the depositorsand in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Karnataka Protection of interest of Depositors in Financial Establishment Act, 2004 (Karnataka Act 30 of 2005) hereby makes the following order, namely:

"ORDER"

Now therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Karnataka Protection of interest of Depositors in Financial Establishment Act, 2004 (Karnataka Act 30 of 2005), the Government under the circumstances stated above having satisfied that in order to protect the interest of depositors it is necessary to attach the immovable property believed to belong to Sri SrishailagiriSouhardha Credit Co-operative Limited, Bengaluru.

Therefore, the Government hereby attaches immovable propertiesas specified in the Annexure to this order believed to have been acquired by the Sri SrishailagiriSouhardha Credit Co-operative Limited, Bengaluru, either in its own name or in the name of any other person from and out of the deposits collected by the Sri SrishailagiriSouhardha Credit Co-operative Limited, Bengaluru and where it transpires that such money or such other properties of the said financial establishments, or the personal assets of the promoters, partners, directors, managers or members or any other person of the said financial establishments is not sufficient for the repayment of the deposits or interest or such other assured benefits to the depositors.

Note: All the aforesaid Immovable properties from the date of publication of this order in the Official Gazette, shall forthwith vest with the Competent Authority, who has been appointed by the Government, pending further orders from the Special Court.

By Order and in the name of the Governor of Karnataka
Sd/-
(Anwar Basha)
Deputy Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department
(Services-1, SSLR & Special Cell)

Annexure-1

Details of the immovable properties belonging to Chairman/Directors of Sri Srishailagiri Souharda Credit Co-operative Limited, Bengaluru

Sl. No.	Property Details	Owner Name	Deed Number and Date	Present Market Value	Remarks
1	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Houselist No.33, Khata No.95, Assesment No.22/1, New BBMP No.510/22/1 situated at Naganathapura Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk within the limits of BBMP, Bangalore and bounded on the:- East by: Private property West by: 25 feet Road North by: Property No. 32 South by: Property No. 34	D.P Naveen	BGR-1-01464-2010-11, Date:24-06-2010	Will be obtained from the authorized valuer at the time of valuation.	The property stands in the name of Chairman of Financial Establishment .
2	All that piece and parcel of the vacant property bearing site No.98, Khata No-69, Assessment No.69 situated at Anjanapura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore. Presently within the limits of BBMP, Bangalore and bounded on the:- East by: Site No 84 & 85 West by: Site No.99 North by: Rajanna Property South by: Road	D.P Naveen	JPN-1-10726-2012-13, Date:18-03-2013	Will be obtained from the authorized valuer at the time of valuation.	The property stands in the name of Chairman of Financial Establishment .
3	All that piece and parcel of the Vacant property bearing Site No.99, Khata No.69/99, Assessment No.69 situated at Anjanapura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore. Presently within the limits of BBMP, Bangalore and bounded on the:- East by: Site No.98 West by: Private property North by: Rajanna Property South by: Road	D.P Naveen	JPN-1-10721-2012-13, Date18-03-2013	Will be obtained from the authorized valuer at the time of valuation.	The property stands in the name of Chairman of Financial Establishment .
4	All the piece and parcel of Agriculture land bearing Sy.No.14/2 extent of 0-20 guntas situated at Kodagurki Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural and bounded on:- East by: Sy.No.15 West by: Sy.No.14/1 North by: Old Sy. No. 95 and new Sy.No.119 South by: Sy.No.14/3	D.P Naveen	DNH-1-03702-2011-12, Date:01-10-2011	Will be obtained from the authorized valuer at the time of valuation.	The property stands in the name of Chairman of Financial Establishment .
5	All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing 452 Sq.ft of undivided share, right, title and interest with apartment No.101 in 1st Floor measuring 2175 Sq.ft of Super Built-up area with Vitrified Tiles Flooring with one covered car parking slot No.101 measuring 14'.5" X 15' be part of multi-storied residential apartment known as "Hanshi's Sannidhi Park" situated at New Sy.No 26/1 and 27/1, present BBMP Clubbed Khatha No.26/1, Sannidhi Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore, PID-15-7-26/1-3 bounded on the:- East by: Flat No.102 West by: Sannidhi Road North by: Property of T.N. Hanumantha Rao thereafter common passage South by: Private property	Geetha Naveen	BSG-1-00556-2016-17, Date:30-04-2016	Will be obtained from the authorized valuer at the time of valuation.	The property stands in the name of Director of Financial Establishment .

Annexure-2

Details of the Mortgaged immovable properties in the name of Financial Establishment Sri Srishailagiri Souharda Credit Co-operative Limited, Bengaluru

Sl. No.	Mortgagee	Mortgagor	Property Details	Deed Number and Date	Mortgage Value	Remarks
1	Sri Srishailagiri Souhardha Credit Co-operative Limited Represented by its Asst.Manager Sri.Anil M. Patil	Sri. Lokesh K.N. S/o K.V. Narayan No.200, Muneshwara Layout Kadugodi Bangalore-560067	All that piece and parcel of site No.200, Khatha No. 635 situated at Muneshwara Layout, Kadugodi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore and measuring East to West 40 ft and North to South 37 1/2 ft in all measuring 1500 sq.ft. Presently within the limits of BBMP Sl.No.763. Bounded on:- East by: Private property West by: 18' Road North by: Private property South by: Private property	Mortgage Deed No. SHV-1-02575-2013-14, Dated: 13.12.2013	Rs.13,50,000/- Interest rate 16% per annum.	A loan of Rs.13,50,000/- was obtained by mortgaging in the name of the financial establishment and was credited to the account of the competent authority and interest was payable.
2	Sri Srishailagiri Souhardha Credit Co-operative Limited Represented by its Asst.Manager Sri.Anil M. Patil	Sri. Premanath K. S/o Kamalnath G. No.41, Mookambika Temple Street Banashankari 3rd Stage, Hosakerehalli Bangalore-560 085	All that piece and parcel of site Nos. 105, 110 & 111 converted in Survey Nos. 40/4 and 42/19 situated at Doddamaranahalli village,Thavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore and all sites measuring 10,045 Sq.ft. Site Nos. 105 & 110: Bounded on:- East by: Private property West by: Site No.106 to 109 North by: Road South by: Road Site No.111:Bounded on:- East by: Private property West by: Site No.112 to 114 North by: Road South by: Site No.115	Mortgage Deed No. RRN-1-03860-2013-14, Dated:02-12-2013	Rs.30,00,000/- Interest rate 18% per annum	A loan was obtained by mortgaging the property in the name of the financial establishment.

Sd/-
(Anwar Basha)
Deputy Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department
(Services-1, SSLR & Special Cell)

DIPR/CP/3784/2024-25

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ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕರಾಪ್ರಾಇ/ಧಾರವಾ/ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾ/ಎಸ್‌ಆರ್‌ಎಸ್-02/2016-17 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 12.12.2024

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ತಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರವು ಈ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ತಿಳುವಳಿಕೆ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಧಾರವಾಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಧಾರವಾಡ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಕೆಲಗೇರಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಸರ್ವೇ ನಂ. 122/ಪಿ2, 122/ಪಿ3 ಮತ್ತು 122/ಪಿ4 ಒಟ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ 05.12.2024 ಕ್ಕೆ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ 10.12.2024 ರಂದು **ಪಾಪ್ಸಿ ಪ್ರಾಪ್ತಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 85 ಪಬ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾಪ್ತಿಕರ್ತ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 15** (ಯಂತ್ರೋಪಕರಣಗಳ ಮಾರಾಟ – ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಎಸ್.ಹೆಚ್ – 75 ಪದಗಳು) ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಸ್ತಿತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಯಂತ್ರೋಪಕರಣಗಳ ಮಾರಾಟಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ತಿಯ ಮಾರಾಟಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಂದ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದೆ. ಈ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಿಂದ 15ರ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯು ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ವಿಫಲವಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತಹ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಯನ್ನು / ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರವು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಿದ ನಂತರ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ತಿಯ ಮಾರಾಟಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಮತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಸದರಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ತಿಯ ಮಾರಾಟಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯು ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ವಿಫಲವಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತಹ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಯನ್ನು / ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು

By e-Despatch / By e-Mail : E-mail : serwcirclesbp@yahoo.com
ଓଡିଶା ସରକାର
ମୁଖ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ
ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ମଣ୍ଡଳ, ସମ୍ବଲପୁର
Office order No. 3553 // Dated. 10.12.2024

1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. Road Tender Online RWCSBP-09/2024-25

Following modifications are hereby made to the notice inviting tender vide this office Bid ID No.Road Tender Online RWCSBP-09/2024-25.

1. The availability of tender online for bidding may be read as 26.12.2024 from 11.00 AM to 09.01.2025 up to 5.00PM instead of from 04.12.2024 from 11.00 AM to 18.12.2024 up to 5.00 PM.
2. The last date & time for seeking clarification may be read as 08.01.2025 up to 5.00 PM instead of 16.12.2025 up to 5.00 PM.
3. The date & time of technical opening bid may be read as 10.01.2025 at 11.00 AM instead of 19.12.2024 at 11.00 AM.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Sambalpur.

O-888: OIPR-25091/11/0016/2425

By e-Despatch / By e-Mail : E-mail : serwcirclesbp@yahoo.com
ଓଡିଶା ସରକାର
ମୁଖ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ
ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ମଣ୍ଡଳ, ସମ୍ବଲପୁର
Office order No. 3548 // Dated. 10.12.2024

1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. Road Tender Online RWCSBP-08/2024-25

Following modifications are hereby made to the notice inviting tender vide this office Bid ID No.Road Tender Online RWCSBP-08/2024-25.

1. The availability of tender online for bidding may be read as 23.12.2024 from 11.00 AM to 06.01.2025 up to 5.00PM instead of from 02.12.2024 from 11.00 AM to 16.12.2024 up to 5.00 PM.
2. The last date & time for seeking clarification may be read as 04.01.2025 up to 5.00 PM instead of 13.12.2025 up to 5.00 PM.
3. The date & time of technical opening bid may be read as 07.01.2025 at 11.00 AM instead of 17.12.2024 at 11.00 AM.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Sambalpur.

O-887: OIPR-25091/11/0015/2425

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, SIRA

Ph-08135-277324 mail id:itstaff_ulb_sira@yahoo.com, website: siracity.mrc.gov.in Fax: 08135-274190

No:CMC/Tender/TS/CR/08/2024-25 Date: 10-12-2024

Tender Notification

As per KTTP Act 1999-2000 Rule 2000,Municipal Commissioner, City Municipal Council, Sira invites tender for Works under 2024-25 Muncipal Fund / Rajivev GAndhi Vasati nigama niyamitha / Enterprises fund grants from eligible contractors/suppliers who has registered can participate in the tender bearing No.1) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT33454 2) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT33445 3) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT33437 4) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT33512 5) DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT32679 6) DMA/2024-25/IND3759 in KPPP portal (http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) For more Information contact office in office hours.Any Corrigendum or Addendum issued will be given in KPPP portal.

1) Last date to receive tenders SL No number 01 To 04 is 17/12/2024 and SL No 05 To 06 27/12/2024 till 5-00 PM 3) CMC Sira reserves the rights to accept/cancel the tender.

Sd/-Municipal Commissioner, CMC, Sira.

DIPR/TUM/478/MKSCA/2024-25

ODISHA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Together, let us light up our lives

PLOT NO. 4, CHUNOKOLI, SHAILASHREE VIHAR, BHUBANESWAR-751021

PUBLIC NOTICE

Case No. 103 of 2024

Application of GRIDCO Ltd. for approval of Truing up of expense for FY 2023-24 under Section 86 (1) (a) & (b) and all other applicable provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with relevant provisions of OERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004 & other related Rules and Regulations.

GRIDCO Ltd. has submitted its Application to the Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission on 07.12.2024 for approval of Truing up of expenses for FY 2023-24, which has been registered as **Case No.103 of 2024.** The application has been filed under Section 86(1) (a) & (b) and other applicable provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with OERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004. The Commission has decided to dispose of the case through a public hearing along with the ARR & BSP application for FY 2025-26 of the applicant in **Case No.94 of 2024.**

The petition along with all Annexures submitted by M/s. GRIDCO Ltd. in this regard is available in GRIDCO's website **www.gridco.co.in** as well as in Commission's website **www.orierc.org**. The Interested persons / organizations those who were parties to the previous year Tariff Proceedings i.e. for FY 2023-24 want to participate in the above proceeding may file their objections/suggestions, if any, on the present petition of M/s. GRIDCO Ltd. by **16.01.2025** with a copy to GRIDCO Ltd. and GRIDCO Ltd. is to file its rejoinder to the objections/suggestions of the Respondents by **27.01.2025** with a copy to the Respondents. Those who are interested to participate in the public hearing through video conferencing should also indicate their e-mail address and mobile number respectively to the Commission at OERC e-mail **(oerc.vc@gmail.com)** before hand.

By Order

Dated: 13.12.2024

Sd/-
SECRETARY

CAD- OIPR-04056/11/0009/2425

GRIDCO LIMITED

GRIDCO Empowering Odisha

Janpath, Bhubaneswar-751022, Odisha

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application under Section 86 (1) (a) & (b) and other applicable provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with relevant provisions of OERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations,2004 along with other related Rules and Regulations for determination of Aggregate Revenue Requirement and Bulk Supply Price for the FY 2025-26, filed by GRIDCO Ltd. before the Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission, Bhubaneswar-21.

1. GRIDCO Ltd. has filed an Application on **30.11.2024** before the Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission for approval of Aggregate Revenue Requirement and determination of Bulk Supply Price (BSP) for the financial year 2025-26 which has been registered as **Case No. 94 of 2024**. The application has been filed under Section 86(1) (a) & (b) and other applicable provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with relevant provisions of OERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004. The Commission has decided to dispose of the said case through a public hearing.

2. Copies of the aforesaid filing as mentioned in Para-1 above together with supporting materials along with the related documents are available with the office of the CGM (PP), GRIDCO Headquarters, Bhubaneswar. This public notice along with the details of filing and relevant matters may also be downloaded from the GRIDCO's website **www.gridco.co.in** as well as the Commission's website **www.orierc.org**.

3. The Bulk Supply Price is applicable for supply of power to the Distribution Companies of Odisha by GRIDCO Ltd. The proposed Bulk Supply Price application for the financial year 2025-26 contains details regarding energy charges, demand charges, charges for over-drawl of energy, rebate and delayed payment surcharge etc.

4. The rates and charges proposed by GRIDCO are published herewith for the information of the general public.

5. (A) A summary of the proposal will be posted in the Commission's website after **13.01.2025** for general reference.
(B) Interested persons may inspect/peruse the relevant records pertaining to the matters enumerated in Para-1 above and take note thereof at the office mentioned at Para-2 above, during office hours on or before **16.01.2025** by making a plain paper application to the aforesaid authority.

6.The salient features of the Bulk Supply Price application as mentioned in Para-1 above shall be available to the interested persons from the office mentioned at Para-2 above, during office hours on or before **16.01.2025** on payment of the photocopying charges of Rs.50/- only. The said salient features shall include;

(a) Write up of the BSP application.
(b) Proposed Bulk Supply Price schedule.
(c) Bulk Supply Price revision proposal (T-17).
(d) Revenue Requirement (F- 4).

7. A full set of the Aggregate Revenue Requirement and Bulk Supply Price application for the financial year 2025-26 can also be obtained from the office of the CGM (PP), GRIDCO Head quarters, Bhubaneswar during the office hours on or before **16.01.2025** on payment of the photocopying charges of Rs.100/- only.

8. Suggestions/objections, if any, together with supporting materials may be filed before the Secretary, Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission, Plot No. 4, Sailashree Vihar, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751021 in person or through Registered Post including Courier Services only so as to reach him on or before **16.01.2025** positively. A copy of the said suggestions/objections along with relevant documents shall also be served on the undersigned.

(a) The suggestions/objections should be filed in seven copies and should carry full name and postal address with PIN Code including e-mail ID & contact Telephone Number of the person/ organizations/ institutions sending the suggestions/objections and shall be supported by an affidavit.

(b) There shall be clear indication if the suggestions/objections are being filed on behalf of any organization/institution representing any category of consumers. It should also be specifically mentioned, if it is to be heard in person by the Commission.

(c) Suggestions/objections received after the date mentioned above or those which will prove deficient on any or more of the above points may not be admitted for hearing. Only those objections/suggestions supported through affidavit will be taken up for hearing.

9. As directed by the Commission, the date of hearing shall be duly published in the newspapers and also communicated to the parties whose objections are admitted.

Sd/
MANAGING DIRECTOR
GRIDCO Ltd.

Dated: 13 /12/2024

Note: i) The above public notice along with the proposed Bulk Supply Price schedule is also available in GRIDCO's website **www.gridco.co.in** as well as the Commission's website **www.orierc.org**.
Ii) In case of any ambiguity in the notice published in Odia language, the notice published in English language may be referred for authenticity.

Proposed Bulk Supply Price Schedule of GRIDCO for carrying out Bulk Supply Activity for the FY 2025-26

Bulk Supply Price: The proposed Bulk Supply Price is applicable for supply of power to four Distribution and Retail Supply Licensees (TPCODL, TPWODL, TPNODL & TPSODL) in the State. The total charges shall be calculated by summation of following charges stated in Para (A) to (F) below as applicable:

A. Energy Charge: GRIDCO proposes to recover its net Revenue Requirement of **Rs.14,820.37 Crore** through Energy Charge/BSP from the DISCOMs towards sale of **38,813.55 MU**. The average BSP is proposed @ 381.84 P/U only for recovery of above proposed net Revenue Requirement.

B.Demand Charge: To establish monthly control measure, the Simultaneous Maximum Demand (SMD) at 105% and the existing annual basis may be revised to monthly basis. This adjustment will determine the monthly SMD for DISCOMs towards the recovery of charges for any excess energy drawn during a month beyond the approved monthly SMD. The 105% SMD limit will be applied and charged on a monthly basis on the annual average SMD being within the approved SMD. The Commission may consider to levy demand charges @ Rs.250/KVA/Month from distribution companies on the excess SMD based on the following conditions:

- When the actual SMD of a DISCOM in a month exceeds the permitted monthly SMD (105% of the approved SMD), the respective distribution company will be billed by GRIDCO @ Rs.250/kVA/Month for the excess SMD.
- Such charges shall not be adjusted at the end of the year even if the actual monthly SMD remains within the permitted monthly SMD in any other month(s) of the same financial year.

C. Over Drawl Charges: To issue necessary suitable guidelines to the DISCOMs to adhere to the approved drawl quantum of energy and SMD limit fixed and approved by Hon'ble Commission so as to prevent any kind of additional cost burden on the petitioner, GRIDCO.

D. Rebate: As proposed below, the following rebate policy for payment of BSP may be approved in the ARR order for FY 2025-26:

- For crediting the BSP bill of the DISCOM to GRIDCO's designated current bank account through Letter of Credit on presentation or through NEFT/RTGS within a period of five (5) working days, a rebate of 1.5 % shall be allowed.
- Where the amount is credited on any day after five (5) working days and within a period of twenty-five (25) days of presentation of bill, a rebate of 1.00% shall be allowed.
- The DISCOMs may pay their BSP dues for eligibility of rebate provided total current BSP dues needs to be settled by the DISCOM within 25th day of presentation of BSP bill.

E. Delayed Payment Surcharges (DPS): The surcharge for delayed payment of Bulk Power Supply bills i.e. payment after 30 days from the date of submission of bills, may be allowed by the Hon'ble Commission to be levied at 1.50% per month.

F. Sale of Power through Specialised Tariff Scheme under Tripartite Agreement: A special scheme was devised by the OERC allowing industry having CGP with CD above 20 MW who are willing to avail power from DISCOMs and operating at load factor more than 80% to draw power through Tri-Partite Agreement (TPA) at a rate approved in the BSP/ RST order for the respective FY and the said scheme has been in place since FY 2021-22.

The renewable energy available with the DISCOMs remaining unutilised, after meeting the requirement of Green Consumer Certification, can be allotted to the CGP based industries, availing power under the TPA scheme, without any premium considering the benefits of the scheme and to make the scheme more attractive .It is prayed before the Hon'ble Commission to allow the surplus renewable energy with one DISCOM to be shared with the other DISCOM having deficit renewable power under intimation to GRIDCO.

CAD- OIPR-04056/11/0010/2425

Bangalore-Mysore Infrastructure Corridor Area Planning Authority

No. 5, Second Floor, Looplane, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560009. Tel: 080-22341230/35, E-mail: bmicapa@gmail.com

No:BMICAPA/CLU-02/58/2024-25/1348 Date: 13.12.2024

PUBLICATION

(UNDER SEC 14(A) OF KTCP ACT, 1961)

Sri. P.R. Srirama S/o P. Ramakrishna has applied to this Authority seeking Change of land use from **"Agriculture" Zone to "Residential"** purpose under Sec 14(A) of KTCP Act 1961, pertaining Sy.No.351/2 Extent 01Acre-02Guntas, Sy.No.351/3 Extent 04Acre-25Guntas (including 00Acre-23Gunta A Kharab) and Sy.No.351/4 Extent 00Acre-32Guntas of **Kodiyala Karenahalli Village,** Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagar Taluk, Ramanagara District totaly measuring **06Acre-19Guntas.** Applicant has stated that the change of land use sought is in the interest of public by quoting the following;

(1) If this land is developed and layout formed, sites will be available at reasonable price to middle income group and economically weaker section. (2) At the time of carving and designing the Layout, there will be job opportunities to labourers. (3) If this land is developed, then the surrounding area will also get developed. (4) If the planned development takes place, good road, civic amenity sites and parks etc, will be available for General Public.

Objection, if any, are invited from the public, any person may file his/her objection to Member Secretary, BMICAPA, Bengaluru in writing to the above address mentioned in this publication within 15 days from the publication of this notice. Any objection received after stipulated time will not be considered.

Sd/- Member Secretary,
B.M.I.C.A.P.A., Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/YC/3774/2024-25

KALABURAGI MAHANAGARA PALIKE, KALABURAGI

Fax No.08472/260776, Phone: 08472/ 278675, Email Id: itstaff_ulb_gulbarga@yahoo.com

No.KMP/HS/SWM/C&D TENDERS/2024-25 Date: 12.12.2024

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

Under the Karnataka Public Procurement Transparency Rules 2000, Kalaburagi Mahanagara Corporation invites tenders from eligible bidders for the work mentioned below. Tenders are invited through e-procurement for the following services.

1) Details of Work/Service : Supply and deliver a Front end backhoe loader with a rock breaker component of C and D waste treatment plant to Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi. **Indent Numbers : DMA/2024-25/IND4081,** Tendered amount : **91,16,000/-, Dates fixed for tender :** 1. Last Date and Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications Date : 25.12.2024 Time : 11.00am, 2. Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders, Date : 26.12.2024 Time : 2.00pm, 3. Last Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid Date : 27.12.2024 Time : 3.00pm, 4. Last Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid Date : 30.12.2024 Time : 11.30am

2) Details of Work/Service : Supply and deliver a Front end backhoe loader A component of C and D waste treatment plant to Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi. **Indent Numbers : DMA/2024-25/ IND4069,** Tendered amount : **44,16,300/-**

3) Details of Work/Service : Supply, Installation, Commissioning of Fire Extinguisher A component of C and D waste treatment plant to Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi, **Indent Numbers : DMA/2024-25/ IND4070,** Tendered amount : **2,11,500/-**

4) Details of Work/Service : Supply and deliver a Tractor 70HP Above A component of C and D waste treatment plant to Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi, **Indent Numbers : DMA/2024-25/ IND4071,** Tendered amount : **28,93,032/-**

5) Details of Work/Service : Supply and deliver a Trailer 5 tonne capacity A component of C and D waste treatment plant to Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi. **Indent Numbers : DMA/2024-25/ IND4072,** Tendered amount : **4,00,000/-**

6) Details of Work/Service : Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Trail Run of GPS Tracking System A component of C and D waste treatment plant to Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi. **Indent Numbers: DMA/2024-25/ IND4073,** Tendered amount: **66,000/- Work Sl. No. 2 to 6 Dates fixed for tender :** 1. Last Date and Time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications Date : 19.12.2024 Time : 2.00pm, 2. Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders Date : 20.12.2024 Time : 2.30pm, 3. Last Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid, Date : 21.12.2024 Time : 5.00pm, 4. Last Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid Date : 23.12.2024 Time : 11.30am

7) Details of Work/Service : Supply and deliver a Tipper Truck A component of C and D waste treatment plant to Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi, **Indent Numbers: DMA/2024-25/ IND4074,** Tendered amount : **1,32,30,000/-, Dates fixed for tender :** 1. Last Date and Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications Date : 25.12.2024 Time : 2.00pm, 2. Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders Date : 26.12.2024 Time : 3.00pm, 3. Last Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid Date : 27.12.2024 Time : 5.00pm, 4. Last Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid Date : 30.12.2024 Time : 11.30am

8) Details of Work/Service : Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Trail Run of 50 TPD C & D Waste Processing Plant in Khandal village, Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi. **Indent Numbers : DMA/2024-25/ IND4076,** Tendered amount : **2,04,00,000/-,** Dates fixed for tender : Date : 24.12.2024 Time : 2.00pm, 2. Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders Date : 10.01.2025 Time : 2.30pm, 3. Last Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid Date : 11.01.2025 Time : 3.00pm, 4. Last Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid Date : 14.01.2025 Time : 11.30am

* More details about EMD is available in e-procurement, * For more details: Assistant Executive Engineer (Env) Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike can be contacted, * Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Assistant Executive Engineer (Env)
Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/717/KSMC&A/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division, Yelahanka Zone, BBMP Office, Bengaluru-560092.

No. BBMP/EE/Proj/YEL/TEN/07/2024-25 Date: 10.12.2024

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) NOTIFICATION

Two Cover - Short Term Tender Notification
(Only through GoK KPP Portal)

The Executive Engineer, Project Division, Yelahanka Zone, BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf the Commissioner, BBMP invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Govt. Organisations for the following work.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Operation, Supervision and maintenance of BBMP Indoor stadium located at BEL 4th Block, 8th Cross in Ward No. 09, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru.	2,00,000/-

Period of Completion of Work : **5 years / 60 months.**

Calendar of Events: **(1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (2)** Last date & time for queries : **20.12.2024 upto 3.00 pm. (3)** Date & time of Pre-bid Meeting at Office of the Chief Engineer, Yelahanka Zone: **21.12.2024 at 3.30 pm. (4)** Last date for submission of tenders : **27.12.2024 upto 4.00 pm. (5)** Date & time of opening of Technical bid: **30.12.2024 at 11.00 am. (6)** Date & time of opening of Financial bid: **02.01.2025 at 4.00 pm, if possible.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project Division, Yelahanka Zone

ಗ್ರಾಮ : ಗಂಗಪ್ಪನಹಳ್ಳಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು : ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ
ಹೋಬಳಿ : ತಾವರೆಕೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ : ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಖಾತೆದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು ಪಹಣಿಯಂತೆ ಶ್ರೀಯುತರು/ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ	ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂಬರ್	ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ		
			ಐನು ಎ-ಗುಂಟೆ	ಖರಾಬು ಎ-ಗುಂಟೆ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಎ-ಗುಂಟೆ
111	ವನಿತ ಟಿ ಬಿನ್ ಲೇ ತಿರುಮಲಯ್ಯ	4/14	0-00.25	–	0-00.25
112	ಎಸ್.ಲಾಯಿಡ್ ಉರುಫ್ ಲಾಯಿಡ್ ಸೆಲ್ವನ್ ಬಿನ್ ಲೇ ಟಿ ಸೆಲ್ವನ್	5/1	0-00.50	–	0-00.50
113	ಚಿನ್ನಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ ವಿ.ಗೋವಿಂದಯ್ಯ	6/1	0-00.50	–	0-00.50
114	ಎಂ.ಗೋವಿಂದಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಮಾದಯ್ಯ ಬೈರಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಬೈರಪ್ಪ ಜಿ.ಕೆ.ಚಿಕ್ಕಣ್ಣಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಕಾಳಬೈರಪ್ಪ	10/4	0-00.50	–	0-00.50
		ಒಟ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ	**0-01.75**		**0-01.75**

–: ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್:–

ಗ್ರಾಮ : ತಿಪ್ಪಗೊಂಡನಹಳ್ಳಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು : ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ
ಹೋಬಳಿ : ತಾವರೆಕೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ : ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಖಾತೆದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು ಪಹಣಿಯಂತೆ ಶ್ರೀಯುತರು/ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ	ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂಬರ್	ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ		
			ಐನು ಎ-ಗುಂಟೆ	ಖರಾಬು ಎ-ಗುಂಟೆ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಎ-ಗುಂಟೆ
115	ಎಂ.ಅರುಣ್‌ಕುಮಾರ್ ಬಿನ್ ಆರ್.ಮುನಿರಾಜು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಗೋಮಾಳ, ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಮ್ಮ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ ತಿಮ್ಮಯ್ಯ, ಎಂ.ಅರುಣ್‌ಕುಮಾರ್ ಬಿನ್ ಆರ್.ಮುನಿರಾಜು, ಆಂಜಿನಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಕರಿಯಪ್ಪ, ಡಿ.ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸ್ ಬಿನ್ ಲೇ ದೊಡ್ಡಗಂಗಯ್ಯ, ಕೆಶಿಪ್ ರಸ್ತೆಗೆ –85 ರಸ್ತೆಗೆ, ಸ್ಮಶಾನ, ಮಹದೇವಯ್ಯ ಬಿನ್ ಲೇ ಸಿದ್ದಗಂಗಪ್ಪ	19	0-28.00	–	0-28.00
		ಒಟ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ	**0-28.00**	–	**0-28.00**

ಸಹಿ/–
(ಕೃಷ್ಣವೇಣಿ ಬಿ.ವಿ)
ಕೆ.ಎ.ಎಸ್. (ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಶ್ರೇಣಿ)
ವಿಶೇಷ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಭೂಸ್ವಾ),
ಯೋ.ಅ.ಘ., ಕ.ರಾ.ಹೆ.ಅ.ಯೋ.,
ಕೆ.ಆರ್.ವೃತ್ತ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/3761/2024–25

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, Dasarahalli Zone, MEI Layout, Hesaraghatta Main Road, Bagalagunte, T. Dasarahalli, Bangalore-560073.

No: BBMP/EE/DD/T.N/20/2024-25 Date: 10.12.2024

CORRIGENDUM-01

(Through e-Procurement Portal GOK website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

Sub: Reg. Corrigendum of Dates Scheduled in Tender Notification

Ref: This Office KPP Portal Tender Notification No: BBMP/EE/DD/T.N/20/2024-25 Date: 26.11.2024

The Tender invited as per the above Subject and Reference the details of the Revised dates in the Tender Notification are as follows.

Old Time Schedule

1. Tender documents may be downloaded from the KPP portal of the Government of Karnataka from 02.12.2024
2. Tender must be submitted online through KPP portal on 12.12.2024 or before 16:00 hours.
3. Technical Bids will be opened on the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in the office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, and BBMP on or after 13.12.2024 at 16:30 hours.
4. Financial Bids will be opened on the website https://kppp.karnataka,gov, in the office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, and BBMP on or after 16.12.2024 at 16:30 hours onwards.

Revised Time Schedule

1. Tender documents may be downloaded from the KPP portal of the Government of Karnataka from 02.12.2024
2. Tender must be submitted online through KPP portal on 17.12.2024 or before 16:00 hours
3. Technical Bids will be opened on the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in the office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, and BBMP on or after 18.12.2024 at 16:30 hours.
4. Financial Bids will be opened on the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in the office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, and BBMP on or after 20.12.2024 at 16:30 hours onwards.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division

Minister hurls graft charge against BYV

Debate on waqf land issue intensifies in Assembly; Priyank Kharge accuses Vijayendra of offering bribe of ₹150 crore to Anwar Manippady

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The ruling Congress and Opposition BJP continued to clash in the legislature over the issue of waqf property encroachments, even as Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge on Friday accused BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra of offering a bribe of ₹150 crore to former chairman of the Karnataka State Minorities Commission Anwar Manippady to remain quiet on encroachment of waqf properties.

"On whose behalf did Mr. Vijayendra meet Mr. Manippady or to protect whom? He has alleged that Mr. Vijayendra offered a bribe of ₹150 crore to drop the issue when his (the latter's) father, B.S. Yediyurappa, was the Chief Minister," the Minister told the Legislative Assembly during the discussion on the waqf issue. "Is Mr. Manippady still in the BJP? Why has there been no disciplinary action against him despite his charges? He has also claimed to have written to the Prime Minister," Mr. Kharge said, quoting media reports in July 2022.

'Diverting attention'

In response, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Arvind Bellad said he was not aware whether Mr. Manippady was still in the party or not, and that Mr. Kharge was trying to divert attention from the issue.

When Vijayapura legislator Basanagouda R. Patil Yatnal tried to intervene, Mr. Kharge shot back, "You have accused the BJP State president of being corrupt and have accused him of parking money in Dubai and Mauritius." Mr. Vijayendra, who had spoken earlier on the issue, was not in the House, and a few BJP members urged the Minister not to refer to the issue when the member was not present.

Earlier, terming the waqf Act as a "dark legislation", Mr. Yatnal said, "The country, mutts, temples, and Dalits cannot be safe because of the legislation. I have written to the Prime Minister five times to scrap the waqf board." The House should pass a resolution offering support to the amendments being brought to the waqf Act, he urged.

Responding to the Congress' attack on the BJP that notices were also issued during Basavaraj Bommai's regime, Leader of Opposition R. Ashok said: "The current problem is due to provisions of the Act after their amendments in 1995 and 2013 by the Congress. They were issued as per the procedure introduced after the amendments."

Quoting statistics from the government, he said a total of 47,470 waqf properties are in Karnataka with an extent of 1.11 lakh acres, of which 84,000 acres are in dispute. Congress members frequently interrupted him and said that the BJP leader was speaking against the spirit of the party's manifesto of 2004.

When Mr. Ashok pointed out the claim of waqf board member N.K. Muhammad Shafi Sa-adi that the Vidhana Soudha, Vikasa Soudha, and Udyoga Soudha were waqf properties, the Minister asked, "Your government appointed him. He is your friend. Were you eating laddoos when he said it?"

While the BJP claimed that amendments to the Act in 1995 and 2013 had led to the current situation, Congress members said the action to remove encroachments had been taken as per the 2016 Model Act brought by the BJP-led Central government.

Heated exchange: Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge and (right) Opposition members in the Legislative Assembly on Friday.

Cong. raises Munirathna issue as a counter

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The Legislative Assembly on Friday witnessed a heated exchange of words when the Congress demanded that the debate on alleged irregularities involving BJP member Munirathna be taken up on priority over the waqf row.

This led to exchanges between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok, resulting in the adjournment of the House for some time.

The episode unfolded when Mr. Ashok and other BJP members stood up to seek permission from Speaker U.T. Khader to begin a debate on waqf row as listed in the agenda. However, some Congress members, including Nayana Motamma, wanted Mr. Munirathna issue be taken up. They pointed out that Mr. Munirathna's issue too had been listed in the agenda.

Clarification sought

"Let the Leader of the Opposition clarify if the allegations that Mr. Munirathna had indulged in sexual abuse of a woman in the Vidhana Soduha were false," Ms. Nayana Motamma demanded. The Chief Minister intervened to say that Congress members also be allowed to talk.

This angered Mr. Ashok, who said the BJP members had given a notice to the Speaker seeking a debate on the waqf issue much earlier. As the argument intensified, not just between Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Ashok, but also between the ruling and the Opposition members, the Speaker adjourned the House for some time.

IN THE LEGISLATURE

'No question of temples, poor people being removed'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Wakf Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan on Friday said he would protect temples and houses of poor families even if they are on wakf properties.

"We have directed the officials not to vacate any encroachments. How can we remove poor families living there for 40 -50 years? There is no question of temples to be removed even if they are built on wakf properties. Can we touch any temple? I will protect the temples on wakf properties," Mr. Khan said.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced that the government would give its response on the issue on Monday.

Rains claimed 133 lives, damaged 20,893 houses this year: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

A total of 133 lives have been lost due to heavy rain in Karnataka during the southwest and northeast monsoons, according to Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda.

Disclosing this while making a statement on Friday in the Legislative Assembly on the damage due to the rains this year, the Minister said while some people were washed away in rivers, some died due to lightning strikes and house collapse.

The government had provided a compensation of ₹5 lakh each to the family of the deceased, he said.

He pointed out that the State had received 20% more rainfall in pre-monsoon, and southwest and northeast monsoon seasons. As against the normal of 852 mm and 173 mm rainfall during southwest and northeast monsoons, the State had received 978 mm and 213 mm rainfall, respectively, he said.

But the distribution of rainfall was not uniform throughout the State, as there were some districts that had received below-average rainfall, he said.

Crop damage

The heavy rain had caused crop loss on 1.59 lakh hectares of land during the kharif season and on 1.45 lakh hectares during the rabi season, the Minister said. The government provided compensation of ₹94.94 crore toward crop loss during the kharif season and ₹112.17 crore for loss during the rabi season.

The heavy rain had also resulted in damage to 20,893 houses of which 3,012 were fully damaged, he said. The government had allocated a compensation of ₹297 crore towards house damage, he said.

The Deputy Commissioners still had ₹579 crore with them to provide compensation towards losses due to natural disasters, he said.

To avoid landslips

The Revenue Minister said the State government had identified 863 landslip-prone village panchayats in the State to take up work to permanently prevent landslips in the next two-and-a-half years.

These village panchayats were spread over the six districts of Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Uttara Kannada, Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga, and Kodagu, he said.

Krishna Byre Gowda

'Increase reservation under category 1 to 7%'

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Members of the Karnataka Legislative Council cutting across party lines on Friday urged the State government to take steps to increase the reservation for the most backward communities under category 1 to 7% from the present 4%.

Raising the issue under Rule 330, BJP member Talawar Sabanna said that despite being the most backward communities, those under category 1 had been deprived of their rightful share of reservation.

Mr. Sabanna said that initially the reservation for castes under category 1 was fixed at 5% as per recommendations of the first permanent backward classes commission, but it was subsequently reduced to 4% in 1994.

Members argue that despite being the most backward communities, those under category 1 have been deprived of their rightful share of reservation

"Many of the most backward communities have not got even an attender's post. Our only demand is that based on our population, the reservation under category 1 should be increased to 7%," he said.

Replying to the question, Social Welfare Minister Shivaraj Tangadagi, however, expressed the government's inability to increase the reservation because of the Supreme Court ruling on 50% ceiling on reservation.

Intervening in the discussion, Congress member D.T. Srinivas expressed dismay over the injustice meted out to the most backward classes.

He said, "There were 52 castes under category 1 when 5% reservation was given. But later it was increased to 95 castes but reservation reduced to 4%." He concurred with Mr. Sabanna's demand to increase the reservation and demanded that a caste census should be conducted in the State as it would provide the empirical data required to take further steps.

In IX Schedule

Senior Congress member B.K. Hariprasad concurred with Mr. Sabanna and said that the 50% ceiling on reservation by the Supreme Court was not a verdict, but an observation. He urged the Minister to convince the Chief Minister to increase the reservation and include it in the IX Schedule of the Constitution like what the Tamil Nadu government had done to increase reservation beyond 50%. Cutting across party lines, members including Nagaraj Yadav, Ravikumar, and Thippeswamy spoke in favour of increasing the reservation.

Replying on the issue, Mr. Tangadagi pointed out that the H. Kantharaj Commission report had been received by the government. He assured the House that he would take up the issue with the Chief Minister to take further steps and requested time as it involved various issues.

Civil Procedure Code to be amended to reduce pendency

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

In a decision that could help address the large pendency of civil cases, the Karnataka government on Friday decided to bring in an amendment to the Civil Procedure Code that is expected to reduce the pendency. Currently, about 9.98 lakh cases are pending in Karnataka.

"A large number of cases have been pending before courts for several years. Some even for 50 years. The amendment will ensure that justice in civil cases will be delivered in a time-bound manner," sources said after the Cabinet meeting. The amendment Bill would be moved in the Winter Session of the legislature, sources said.

Sources said it would be a landmark development as it would remove the travails of people fighting civil cases. "Summons sent to the phone registered in the name of the person or email will be valid. The finality of the case can be arrived at the time of the first hearing since everything now will be time bound."

A Bill to overhaul the Mysuru Urban Development Authority was cleared by the State Cabinet on Friday. FILE PHOTO

MUDA overhaul

Meanwhile, in another significant development, a new Bill to overhaul the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) was cleared by the Cabinet. "The Bill will ensure the functioning of MUDA on the lines of the Bangalore Development Authority. In future, all urban development authorities in the State will function on the lines of the BDA."

While the gig workers welfare Bill was listed, the matter was deferred, sources said.

₹3,740 crore for NK

The State Cabinet also approved projects worth ₹3,740 crore for the North Karnataka region for irrigation, tourism, urban development, and rural development, among other sectors.

Over 430 start-ups registered in north Karnataka: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

As many as 432 start-ups have registered in northern Karnataka districts as part of the 'Beyond Bengaluru' initiative, Priyank Kharge, Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj and IT and BT, said on Friday.

He was responding to the initial discussion on the issues relating to the development of northern Karnataka, in the Legislative Council. "We hope, with good reason that these companies will create large-scale employment," the Minister said.

These new industries would be involved in the manufacturing of electronic products and new innovations. These would not only create more jobs but also add to new technology and innovation. Some more opportunities were being provided to local youth to pick up new skills under the Nipuna Karnataka scheme, he said.

Member Keshav Prasad said intensive promotion of tourism could help northern Karnataka significantly. He suggested the promotion of temple tourism to develop villages and small towns of northern Karnataka, backwater tourism near dams and waterbodies, and wildlife tourism in and around sanctuaries and forest areas.

Member M. Nagaraj demanded increasing the number and variety of industries in the region.

Govt. to settle ₹6,509 crore power bill dues of GPs

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The State government has agreed to settle ₹6,509 crore power dues of all gram panchayats in Karnataka, Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Priyank Kharge said here on Friday. The rural self-government institutions owe this amount for the consumption between 2015 and 2023.

The rural self-government institutions owe this amount for consumption between 2015 and 2023

"The 5,950 gram panchayats had dues of around ₹6,509.9 crore in pending electricity bills for drinking water supply and street lighting. The State government has agreed to settle the amount. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has assured that ₹5,257.7 crore will be settled through a securitisation guarantee and ₹1,252.2 crore will be waived," Mr. Kharge said.

He was responding to a question by member Thimmaiah in the Legislative Council.

The total electricity charges for drinking water supply and street lighting of gram panchayats from April 2023 to September 2024 was ₹3,719.2 crore. This included a principal amount of ₹2,749.54 crore and an interest of ₹969.66 crore. This amount has to be paid to the power supply companies.

The State government has approved ₹1,202.18 crore to gram panchayats as State Finance Commission grants or other forms of assistance. Out of this, GPs can pay power bills totalling ₹391.79 crore. The rest has to be pooled by the GPs from their local resources.

Solar project

The State government is introducing 'Hombelaku', a new solar energy project to electrify villages. The scheme has been launched as a pilot project in 50 GPs and will be expanded to all villages in phases.

The government is also considering setting up micro grids where GPs will invest in their own solar farms, use the energy produced, and sell a part of it back to the grid, according to the Minister.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
WATER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, KNNL, KPC DIVISION NO-2, BHALKI.

No. EE/KNNL/KPC-2/BLK/PB-1/Tender/2024-25/750 Dated: 07.12.2024

:: SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION ::

(Only Through e-procurement System) In two cover system

Tenders in Electronic mode on "PERCENTAGE BASIS" are invited on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore, by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, K P C Division No.2, Bhalki in Two cover systems, from the contractors enrolled in KPWD of Karnataka State who fulfill the qualifying conditions, for the works details mentioned below.

The work Indent no. **KNNL/2024-25/HL/WORK_INDENT2429,** the amount put tender **1) Rs. 427.74 Crores.** Respectively and EMD amount is **Rs. 4.28 Crores.** And Class of Contractor as per E-portal

Calendar of events: a) The Contractor can have access to the e-tender document **10-12-2024,** b) The Last date of Submission of completed tender documents **09-01-2025 @ 16.30 Hrs,** c) Date of Opening of Technical Bid is **10-01-2025 @ 16.59 Hrs** & Financial bid will be open after technical bid approval respectively. All details & information can be had from the office of the under signed during office hours and visit website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KNNL, KPC, Division no-2, Bhalki.

DIPR/Bidar/291/KSMC&A/2024-25

Pinarayi inaugurates international film festival

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Calling on filmmakers to create diverse films reflecting social realities to counter attempts to present a monolithic view, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has cautioned against attempts by corporates to dictate content. He was speaking after inaugurating the 29th International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK)here on Friday.

Mr. Vijayan presented the IFFK Lifetime Achievement Award for the year to Ann Hui, one of the pioneers of Hong Kong new wave cinema. Ms. Hui, in her acceptance speech, said that she would like to share the award with the audience that has supported her films.

HC grants actor Allu Arjun bail within hours of arrest

He was arrested for the death of a woman at *Pushpa-2* premiere; the PP could not convince the judge as to how the case attracted provisions of culpable homicide not amounting to murder

Marri Ramu
HYDERABAD

In a day of dramatic developments, lead actor of *Pushpa-2* Allu Arjun secured interim bail for four weeks from Telangana High Court on Friday within hours of Hyderabad Police arresting and lodging him in prison in a case of culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Justice Juvvadi Sridevi of the HC, who heard the actor's bail application moved as lunch motion, directed Allu Arjun to furnish a personal bond of ₹50,000 to the prison authorities. The actor should co-operate with the police officials investigating the case, the judge said, granting bail also to two other accused arrested in the case earlier.

Actor Allu Arjun greets his fans in Hyderabad as he leaves a hospital where he was taken for medical check-up before arrest. AP

Public Prosecutor for Home Palle Nageshwar Rao, presenting his contentions during the hearing, which continued for over an hour beyond regular court closing time, said the accused cannot be granted bail as he was already remanded in judicial custody. However, the PP could not convince the judge as to how the case against the actor attracted provisions of culpable homicide not amounting to murder (Section 106 of BNS which the Chikkdpally police of Hyderabad invoked).

The police issued an FIR on December 5 following the death of M. Revathi, 39, who went to Sandhya theatre to watch film *Pushpa-2*, following a stampede like situation with the arrival of Allu Arjun to the theatre. Her nine-year-old son also sustained injuries in the incident.

The case was registered based on her husband Bhaskar's complaint.

Hand-chopping case: convict sentenced for life gets bail

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

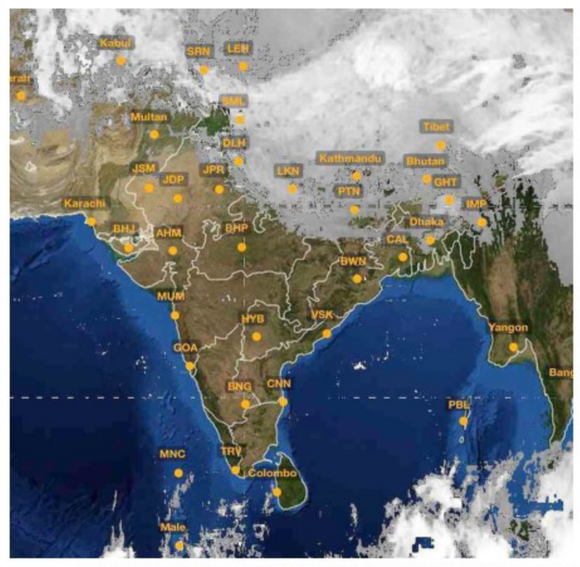
A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court has granted bail to M.K. Nasar, one of the convicts in the college teacher hand-chopping case of 2010, after suspending the sentence of life imprisonment awarded to him by a NIA Special Court.

The Special Court had convicted 13 accused persons and acquitted 18 accused in the case. Savad, the first accused, who had allegedly chopped off the right palm of Professor T.J. Joseph had surrendered recently.

The High Court passed the order when the appeal filed by Nasar, the third accused in the case, came up for hearing.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal. Cold wave conditions likely in isolated pockets of Ladakh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	18.6	13.5	Kozhikode	2	30.4	25.2
Ahmedabad	—	26.0	13.3	Kurnool	—	30.5	21.2
Aizawl	—	23.6	11.0	Lucknow	—	24.4	5.4
Allahabad	—	24.7	7.4	Madurai	28.5	26.2	23.3
Bengaluru	5	24.2	19.8	Mangaluru	—	31.8	25.2
Bhopal	—	22.0	7.8	Mumbai	—	33.4	19.3
Bhubaneswar	—	28.7	14.5	Mysuru	—	28.0	20.2
Chandigarh	—	23.6	6.0	New Delhi	—	22.8	9.0
Chennai	0.2	29.4	25.1	Patna	—	23.0	12.5
Coimbatore	4.5	24.7	22.7	Port Blair	0.1	27.6	25.8
Dehradun	—	24.4	4.3	Puducherry	13.6	27.1	23.8
Gangtok	—	14.2	6.8	Pune	—	31.8	16.6
Goa	—	34.0	25.0	Raipur	—	28.2	13.4
Guwahati	—	25.5	12.1	Ranchi	—	23.2	10.0
Hubballi	—	28.0	19.0	Shillong	—	17.5	6.5
Hyderabad	—	29.0	17.9	Shimla	—	17.6	3.8
Imphal	—	22.7	6.1	Srinagar	—	9.6	-2.0
Jaipur	—	23.0	9.2	Thiruvananthapuram	20	31.7	23.7
Kochi	14	27.8	24.4	Tiruchi	15.6	25.5	23.0
Kohima	—	16.2	12.6	Vijayawada	—	30.0	22.0
Kolkata	—	25.0	14.0	Visakhapatnam	—	28.8	21.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	20	37	37	239	131	
Bengaluru	6	15	78	63	85	
Chennai	11	30	42	129	116	
Delhi	9	248	50	270	229	
Hyderabad	6	127	67	165	153	
Kolkata	16	46	46	220	159	
Lucknow	4	36	71	255	209	
Mumbai	6	96	25	109	151	
Pune	—	145	64	220	136	
Visakhapatnam	—	—	38	—	—	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Hajipur, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 299 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 18

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

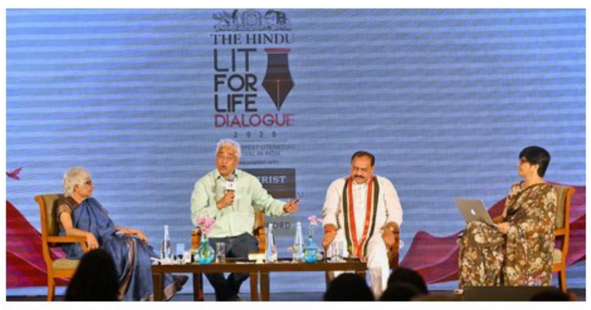
Eminent journalists share views at *The Hindu* Lit For Life Dialogue

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

From the likelihood of simultaneous polls becoming a reality, to the metamorphosing of the Indian elections into a polarising, hyperlocal and cash-intensive affairs to the BJP's ability to bounce back from the electoral jolt in the 2024 Lok Sabha election were some of the topics that held the audience in a spell at *The Hindu* Lit For Life Dialogue 2025 in Hyderabad on Friday.

The event saw eminent journalists Neerja Chowdhury, Rajdeep Sardesai and Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee chief B. Mahesh Goud, sharing insights and at times trading barbs, during a panel discussion that was moderated by Swathi Vadlamudi of *The Hindu*.

Ms. Chowdhury opined that while simultaneous polls was "not a bad idea", it required a great deal of thought. While largely accepted by the middle class, the rural electorate seek an interface with political leaders as a method of mounting pressure on them to get civic, or similar work, done.



Neerja Chowdhury, Rajdeep Sardesai and TPCC chief B. Mahesh Kumar Goud taking part in *The Hindu* Lit for Life Dialogue 2025 in Hyderabad on Friday. NAGARA GOPAL

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Mr. Sardesai said, by means of simultaneous polls, wanted to turn the country into a Presidential system of democracy.

Mr. Goud said the Congress has opposed simultaneous polls as impractical, undemocratic and against the spirit of federalism. Each State, he said, should have a choice of conducting their elections.

Offering her analysis of the outcome of the Maharashtra Assembly election, Ms. Chowdhury said the rise of women as a political force was being witnessed. The BJP, which course corrected quickly, embarked on 'game changing' social welfare schemes, especially for women.

The Congress in Maharashtra, Mr. Sardesai said, became complacent. BJP, on the other hand, was launching welfare schemes.

Mr. Goud, while conceding to certain arguments, said that the BJP in Maharashtra succeeded in 'manipulating' alliances. That party also succeeded in making stalwarts defect. "They have dismantled the regional feelings," and added that the Congress could not withstand BJP's manipulation.

Mr. Sardesai also raised the 'tragedy' of not giving ticket to Muslims out of concern that Hindus would not vote for them.

Government of Karnataka
TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
Office of the Commissioner for Transport & Road Safety,
1st Floor, 'A' Block, TTMC Building, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560027.
Ph: 080-22276433, E-mail: jcteeg-tran-ka@nic.in

No.CT/Env & e-Gov/PR-20/2024-25(A) Date: 12.12.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Government of Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Tender No.TD/2024-25/IND0002, dated: 12.12.2024
Tenders are invited from interested bidders/service providers through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP) for the implementation of the project for installing grid interactive rooftop solar power plants in 20 Regional Transport Offices having their own buildings. For more details, please visit Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/).** Last date for submission of Bids: **10.01.2025 upto 05.00 pm.**

Sd/-
Additional Commissioner
for Transport (Environment & eGovernance),
Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/3757/SHIRDI SAI/2024-25

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, MEGA LIFT, BHUBANESWAR.
Plot No.A 8/2, Bhoinagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, PIN-751022. E-Mail : cemlpwr.od@gmail.com
Government of Odisha - "e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. 06ML/2024-25

On Line open tender is invited for EPC Contract (Turn Key Basis) for Mega Lift, Odisha

1. Name of Work : Operation and Maintenance of existing 13 nos. schemes with intake points on Tel Basin having command area between 500 Ha. to 2000 Ha. in Megalift Cluster-XIV in the districts of Kalahandi & Bolangir comprising all electro-mechanical & instrumentation equipments installed in pump house & MCC room including pumps and motors, switchyard & Transmission lines, intake well, Sump well, Rising main, Distribution chamber, Gravity main, complete distribution network by UGPL covering culturable command area of 14069.84 Ha. with operation of maintenance of all its 13 completed schemes including its power system connectivity, proper distribution of water to the ayacut including watch & ward with testing and calibration of all electro-mechanical components before the start of each irrigation period in the O&M period of 10 years on "Turn-key basis".
2. O & M Period : 120 (One hundred twenty) calendar months.
3. Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal : 19.12.2024, 10 A.M.
4. Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal : 08.01.2025 up to 5.00 P.M
5. Name & address of the officer inviting Bid : Chief Engineer, Megalift, A-8/2, Bhoi Nagar, Bhubaneswar,Pin-751022

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal "https://tendersodisha.gov.in"

Chief Engineer, Megalift, Bhubaneswar.
A-722 : OIPR-32504/11/0009/2425

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ಮೊದಲನೆ ಮಹಡಿ ,
'ಬಿ' ಬ್ಲಾಕ್,ಕೊಠಡಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ–37,ಕರೂರು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಪಿ.ಬಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08192–231782 E-Mail – ddswdvg@gmail.com
ಸಂ.ಜಂ.ನಿಸಕಇದಾ/ಅ.ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13–12–2024

ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಡಿ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಜಗಳೂರು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಪೂರ್ವ/ನಂತರದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಗ್ರೂಪ್– ಎ, ಬಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಿ ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರೂಪ್–ಡಿ ಆಹಾರ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳ ಪೂರೈಕೆಗಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ–2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಅರ್ಹ ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರಿಂದ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್) http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮೂಲಕ 04 ತಿಂಗಳ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.
(1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:–ಸಂ.: ಜಂನಿ/ಸಕಇ/ವಿನಿ/ಆ.ಟೆ./ಜಗಳೂರು/ಸಿಆರ್–09/2024–25 (2) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.60.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು (3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13–12–2024 (4) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20–12–2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5–00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (5) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ:–17–12–2024 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11–00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (6) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23–12–2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5–00 ಸ್ಥಳ:– ಈ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ.
(7) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ ಮತ್ತು ದಿನಾಂಕ:– ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ಮೊದಲನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಬಿ.ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಕೊ.ಸಂ.37, ಕರೂರು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರದೇಶ, ಪಿ.ಬಿ.ರಸ್ತೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ – 577006. (ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯವು ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತದೆ)
(8) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ.ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 1.20 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಈ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಕಛೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/582/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2024–25
ಸಹಿ/– ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.

डॉ हरिसिंह गौर विश्वविद्यालय, सागर (म.प्र.)
Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar (M.P.)
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Ref. No./DoFA/IoET-BM/GF/2024/01 Date: 05/12/2024

Walk-In Interview

Institute of Engineering & Technology [IoET]

Applications are invited for the post of guest faculty (per lecture basis) in the following departments of the university. Applicants are advised to visit Website Link - **https://dhsgsu.edu.in/recruitment** for detailed advertisement and application form.

Date of interview	: 23-12-2024 & 24-12-2024
Time of interview	: 10.00 AM
Venue of interview	: Gaur Samiti Kaksh, Registrar Office, New Building Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya Sagar, Sagar
Website link	: **https://dhsgsu.edu.in/recuitment**
Link for application form	: https://dhsgsu.edu.in/index.php/en/recruitment/5890-regarding-walk-in-interview-notice-for-the-recuitment-of-guest-faculty-in-the-institute-of-engineering-and-technology-dr.harisingh-gour-central-university-sagar
Last date for application	: 20-12-2024

Registrar

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संधारण खंड क्रमांक–2, नर्मदा परियोजना मूसाखेड़ी, इन्दौर
E-mail: ee2_narmada@rediffmail.com, Ph.: 0731-2712846

निविदा सूचना क्रमांक: 43/2024–25/नर्मदा.परि/न.पा.नि. **ऑनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना** इन्दौर, दिनांक: 10.12.2024

निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु केन्द्रीयकृत प्रणाली में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा का विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट https://mptenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

क्र.	टेंडर क्रमांक	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की समयावधि एवं लागत	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य एवं EMD
01 द्वितीय आमंत्रण	2024_UAD_387608_1	Survey, Soil investigation, design and execution of various works for improvement of bulk water supply system of City Feeder network which includes construction of 30 ML capacity of under ground Sump with pumping stations, pumping main & Electric sub station complete etc, as per scope of work. (as per schedule)	1) 12 माह वर्षाकाल सहित 2) ₹15,35,78,032/–	1) ₹7,67,890/– 2) ₹30,000/–

1.	निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन जमा करने की अंतिम दिनांक	:	26.12.2024, 17:30 बजे तक
2.	निविदा ऑनलाइन खोलने की दिनांक (ENVELOPE A/B)	:	27.12.2024

नोट: निविदा से संबंधित किसी भी प्रकार के संशोधन का प्रकाशन ऑनलाइन https://mptenders.gov.in की वेबसाईट पर ही किया जावेगा, पृथक से समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशन नहीं किया जावेगा।

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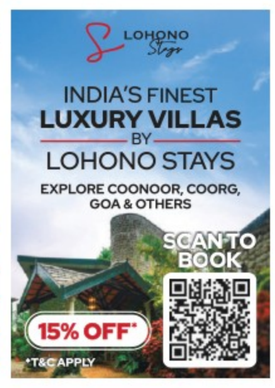

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VINISHA, daughter of Service No.JC 778121A, Rank: SUB Name: S.Santhanam, resident of No.4/160, Pudumariyamman Kovil Street,Chinnakattalai Post, Peraiyur Taluk, Chinnakattalai, Madurai, Tamil Nadu:635527 today in Bengaluru, have changed my name from Vinisha to S.Vinisha video affidavit dated 10-12-2024 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bengaluru.

I, JIGISHA Rahul Katariya, R/at Flat No. B201, Balaji Elegance, Swamy Vivekananda Road, Whitefield, Bengaluru-560066, have changed my name from Jigisha Rahul Katariya to Jalu Jigisha Najabhai, vide affidavit dated 12-12-2024 before Notary K.V. Mani, Bengaluru.

I, SUSHIL Kumar, R/at K Block, No.1504, Brigade Gateway, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar, Malleshwaram West, Bengaluru-560055, have changed my name from Sushil Kumar to Sushil Kumar Sharma vide affidavit dated 12-12-2024 before Notary Sivakumara,M. N, Bengaluru.

I, SERVICE No.14669062Y Name:Bhalekar Bharat Narayan R/o No.303, "B" Wing Sr No.05, Near Nav Bharat School, Pruthviraj Shankul Shivane, Wanjalewadi (N.V.) Pune, Maharashtra-411023 today in Bengaluru have changed my minor Son's name whose Date of Birth is 12-01-2015 from Prem Bhart Bhalekar to Prem Bharat Bhalekar video affidavit dated 07-11-2024 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bengaluru.

I, MANI Megala, daughter of Service No.JC 777062M Name: P.Govinda Raju, R/o of Vill: Kolinghipatti, Nallikkalpatti, P O: Nallikkalpatti District : Salem, Tamil Nadu : 636201 today in Bengaluru have changed my name from Mani Megala to G.Mani Megala video Affidavit dated 10-12-2024 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

I, MANI Rajan, son of Service No.JC 777062M Name : P.Govinda Raju, R/o of Vill : Kolinghipatti, Nallikkalpatti, PO : Nallikkalpatti District : Salem, Tamil Nadu-636201 today in Bengaluru have changed my name from Mani Rajan to G.Mani Rajan video affidavit dated 10-12-2024 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bengaluru.

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Welcome spotlight

Supreme Court's renewed emphasis on monitoring Manipur is welcome

Hearing a case by petitioners aggrieved with the unremitting hostilities in Manipur, the Supreme Court of India has directed the Manipur government to disclose details of destroyed and encroached properties following the ethnic violence a year and a half ago. The Court had also, a few months ago, extended the working tenure of the Justice Gita Mittal-led Committee supervising the investigations related to the violence and also humanitarian assistance and relief in the State. Ideally, these steps should not have been under the aegis of the Court and, instead, under the remit of the executive governments – in this case, the State and the Union Home Ministry. But the violent imagery of sexual violence, the wanton destruction of property, including places of worship, and the continuing hostility between the State's two ethnic groups had forced the Court's hand into foraying into a supervisory role through the Justice Mittal Committee. It has also become an imperative for the higher judiciary, first, because of the remarkable reticence of the Union government in answering questions from civil society and the political Opposition related to the situation in the State, and second, due to the lack of accountability by the misfiring State government that has been ineffective in bridging the ethnic gap. Even political representatives from the same parties have been split on ethnic lines and there seems little convergence in the political demands being made by the opposite camps.

There is also the rise of non-state actors, armed with sophisticated weapons – many of which are looted from the State armouries – exercising their illegal writ on the political process. They have also been engaged in violent acts in places such as Jiribam, which did not see any ethnic conflagrations earlier. Manipur's tragic descent into ethnic hostilities receives national attention only when the scale of the violence is horrifying and reaches unconscionable levels. Despite the government averring that it is taking steps to restore the rule of law and addressing the political differences, a return to the status quo ante before May 2023 seems far away. The Court's renewed attention is, therefore, welcome, but shorn of meaningful steps to reverse the spiral of hostilities, this exercise would remain incomplete. The government's attorneys have also sought to retain a veil of secrecy over the committee's functioning and findings using the tired rhetoric of "national security". The Court should not pay heed to this ploy which seems more a case of seeking to divert attention than helping to find meaningful solutions to the conflict. Across the world, conflict resolution has focused on mechanisms such as "truth and reconciliation" exercises which have privileged accountability and normative actions, something that remains absent in Manipur. The Committee's findings may provide the necessary push in the right direction.

Beyond faith

The interference of the Akal Takht in the affairs of the Akali Dal is unacceptable

The Akal Takht, the highest Sikh temporal seat, has enforced punishment for Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader and former Punjab Deputy Chief Minister Sukhbir Singh Badal, and colleagues for the alleged mistakes they committed when they were in power from 2007 to 2017. The punishment has been both religious and political in nature, which is a disturbing collapse of the essential wall between the two spheres. Mr. Badal survived an assassination attempt while performing penance at the Golden Temple, the central place of worship for Sikhs, on December 4. The Akal Takht's punishments for religious misconduct are the accepted norm for practising Sikhs and, as such, are within the realm of faith and custom. However, Mr. Badal's actions that drew the scrutiny of the Akal Takht were not strictly about his faith, and at the very least, overlapped with his political role as Deputy Chief Minister and beyond. The religious authority also pushed for his ouster as SAD president, and issued directions to the party to set up a committee to initiate a membership drive and hold elections for office-bearers within six months. The SAD is a registered political party regulated by the law of the country and the Election Commission of India. That it bends to religious writs is disconcerting for the polity.

India's legal framework and constitutional principles emphasise secularism, which is reflected in how political parties are regulated. The direct intervention of any religious body in political decisions and affairs of political parties could send the wrong signals on adherence to the Constitution's secular principles. The SAD has been going through a challenging phase following its poor electoral run in the 2022 Assembly and 2024 general elections. It has lost its traditional support base and needs to reimagine its politics to stay relevant in Punjab. The SAD's strategy to revive its fortunes is a return to its pre-1996 'panthic' (Sikh) agenda. But this is a tricky route. There are disturbing signs of a potential revival of extremism among Sikhs, which will do no good to the community or the country. There are global actors that want to reignite the embers of the long-dead 'Khalistan' movement. The assassination bid on Mr. Badal yet again revealed the existence of radical elements willing to resort to violence. The SAD has had a moderating effect on the Sikh community, offering its members a platform for their religious and secular concerns. An effective takeover of the party by the Akal Takht is harmful for both, and the larger polity.

Wounding the spirit of the Constitution of India

Kalpana Kannabiran

a sociologist based in Hyderabad

We, the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic, republic, and to secure to all its citizens justice, liberty, and equality and promote fraternity among all, have been witness to a mockery being made of our constitutional compact, in full public view, at an event organised within the precincts of a constitutional court, the Allahabad High Court.

Distancing ourselves would be a disservice

We have witnessed a sitting judge brazenly challenge the spirit and letter of the Constitution of India, in a speech that is nothing but a dog whistle that guarantees impunity to the mobs that will act on his words and views – and have been acting on words such as his emanating from the seats of power. The venom that Justice Shekhar Kumar Yadav, judge of the Allahabad High Court, spewed on the precincts of the court, has been widely reported in the media. Members of Parliament in the Opposition have initiated an impeachment motion against the judge, the Supreme Court of India has called for a report, and concerned citizens have written to the Chief Justice of India.

None of this, however, captures the sense of collective shock, dismay and grief that it is even possible for this level of public humiliation, violent, incendiary, genocidal street-talk to emerge from a seat of justice under the Constitution. For that is what it is. And it is really time to seek remedies against an incitement to violence of this nature as a part of our solemn affirmation as citizens who gave to ourselves this Constitution. The 'sludge' that was passed as learned judicial speech is an assault on the citizens of India and not an attack on Muslims or minorities or urban naxals or protesters or just any particular group that has become the latest target of mob violence/public incitement. This is not Justice Yadav's views on Muslims, nor is this a case of just one rotten apple. In distancing ourselves from his comments, we do profound disservice to our autonomous and independent determination of the terms on which the collective 'we' is constituted in this country called India that is Bharat.

Justice Yadav's speech is an act of wounding. It is a speech that inflicts deep harms on all of us: in terms of how we experience the life of the mind, knowledge, convivial living and spiritual fulfilment in a shared space, the boundaries of which are not determined by narrow walls and fences of bigotry. and in terms of the injuries that religious bigotry inflicts on shifting targets – on people, our lived lives, our dwellings, our worksites, our neighbourhoods and our places of worship. We have also seen the disastrous effects of soft bigotry as a trigger to mob/state violence, especially in the case of places of worship.

'We' the people of India must not read down Justice S.K. Yadav's speech and allow it to pass as something that is inconsequential

Let us not read down Justice Yadav's speech and allow it to pass as something that is inconsequential. It is not something that can be adequately answered by the High Court that offered the space and the possibility for this – a High Court that did not rise in one voice to condemn and censure a member of the Bench for speaking genocide and atrocity. This is a court that ought to have written to the Chief Justice of India condemning Justice Yadav's speech long before the Supreme Court demanded a report in response to the petitioning and the protests by citizens who took note of the speech and mobilised action given the exceedingly slow wheel of the law.

It calls for a different order of collective judicial accountability. Nor can this act be adequately redressed by subjecting it to the low, anodyne chiding that is whispered by the judicial fraternity alone within court halls that allow restricted entry. We have seen the consequences of dog whistles of this kind over the past decade and the irreparable harms they bring in their wake. We also know that mobilising around the Constitution and its core values together as ordinary citizens, elected citizens and judicial citizens, speaking a shared language across vernaculars and faiths, is the only way of effectively affirming our collective and individual human dignity and the unity and integrity of this country – India that is Bharat.

A commons

This writer has long argued that the Constitution of India, and our rights and responsibilities as citizens, take shape through a deep connection between the intellectual history of constitutionalism and a grounding of that history in our evolving present-futures. Neither constitutional interpretation nor the delineation of our rights need be shackled by narrow reference to precedents and prior judicial wisdom alone, since the spirit of the Constitution (and indeed the Constitution itself) is not judicial property, but is a commons. It is urgent that we think of the Constitution-as-commons – that a shared ownership and shared understanding govern its use to further the common good which is set out in the Preamble and in the philosophy of civil disobedience of various hues. Satyagraha is our collective inheritance – Gandhi, B.R. Ambedkar, Maulana Azad, Jaipal Munda, Dakshayani Velayudhan, Anis Kidwai, A.K. Gopalan....

It is not just rulers but when people who sit on judicial seats speak the undisguised tongue of rulers and the mobs, disobedience is the constitutional route to recuperation. If norms of 'judicial propriety' have come undone, Justice S.K. Yadav of the Allahabad High Court has scripted its ruination. In the resulting crisis that 'judicial propriety' finds itself in, the only resurrection is through the grammar of civil disobedience. Inquiries, explanations, reports, and measured censure will amount to nothing. Impeachment is a good move, but is only symbolic; it is destined to fail when Justice Yadav's political masters have a brute majority in Parliament, unless of course we have an unprecedented and unlikely action by members of the ruling alliance standing with the Constitution.

The outlines of a response

It is of course a sad comment that S.K. Yadav, as a judge, has political masters. This alone should trigger some deep reflection and public discussion by citizen judges, since the barrier between judicial and political speech (and space) has been breached. Taking this further, in reinstating the dignity compass and rejecting public humiliation in judicial conduct and speech, we need to think through public and judicial action that will draw on the wellsprings of our inheritance of civil disobedience and *satyagraha*. We must craft tactical resistance by refusing to allow a person who speaks this language to judge our cases or judge with us. The 'We' that opens the Preamble to the Indian Constitution is not a 'we' that is a motley group of people identified randomly (with or without their consent) as Hindu.

The 'We' is a constitutionally constituted people. A non-denominational, plural, dizzyingly heterogeneous, and diverse beyond measure people who believe in the spirit of the Constitution and its core values.

Trump's return and the South Asia outlook

Harsh V. Pant

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In January 2025, Donald Trump will be sworn-in as the 47th President of the United States of America. Mr. Trump's re-election, and subsequent return to office, have triggered curiosity and "nervousness" in many countries. However, in South Asia, he is likely to offer a distinct continuity. His ideology and foreign policy goals will continue to push for increased cooperation, collaboration, and consultation with India in South Asia even as his leadership style, decision-making nature, and management of great power politics will provide new opportunities and challenges.

Factors in U.S.-India ties

India and the United States have enjoyed an upward trajectory in their relationship since the beginning of the millennium. Acknowledging its leadership in the region, the U.S. even labelled India as a net-security provider in 2009. The Biden administration (2021-24) has emulated a similar outlook. With China's increasing aggressiveness and assertiveness, India and the U.S. have strengthened their engagements and cooperation in South Asia. Through its Indo-Pacific strategy, the U.S. wants to supplement India's regional leadership to counter China and maintain the values-based order. Its cooperation with India on the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) projects in Nepal and helping Sri Lanka out of its economic crisis, indicate this growing cooperation. Besides, Mr. Biden's passive relations with Pakistan after withdrawing from Afghanistan helped India and the U.S. foster a mutual vision for the region.

The relationship has not been free of dissonance and divergences. New Delhi's primary objective of cooperating with the U.S. is to push back against China and offer alternative development partnerships. However, the Biden administration has selectively scrutinised some countries on democracy and human rights under the pretext of upholding a values-based order and pushing back China. While India supported the Sheikh Hasina government in Bangladesh and pragmatically engaged with Myanmar's junta, the U.S. pressured both regimes, including imposing targeted sanctions. This pressure nudged them closer to China. Similarly, sanctioning Indian firms for collaborating with Russia and accusations of corruption against the Adani Group has faltered two Indian projects in Sri Lanka, leaving India to face the brunt and consequences of the decisions.

How South Asian countries will cope with the Trump administration, even as they balance China and India, is yet to be seen

There could be less irritants

However, Mr. Trump's return is likely to assuage these irritants. As in his first term, Mr. Trump has continued to hint at burden sharing, reciprocity, nationalism, and competing against China in his foreign policy. If Mr. Trump walks the talk, he will prioritise pushing back against China while giving less importance to human rights, democracy, and nation-building. He would also want India to take the lead in the region while the U.S. would supplement the same. This would leave less space for divergences and enhance collaborative policies between both countries. Another potential irritant between both countries was concerning their policies on Afghanistan and Pakistan. During his first term, Mr. Trump punished and cooperated with Pakistan and urged India to take an active role in finding a sustainable solution in Afghanistan. With the U.S.'s withdrawal from Afghanistan and Pakistan's little strategic importance, this issue is of little dissonance now.

During his first term, Mr. Trump promoted capacity building, development assistance, defence agreements, and cooperation with the South Asian countries. This nature of assistance would continue, given his ambitions to counter China and supplement India. Mr. Trump's little focus on democracy, nation-building, and human rights (like in his first term) would also benefit Sri Lanka, where a new government is still looking for economic assistance and exploring a lasting solution to the Tamil issue.

This approach could benefit Myanmar and the Taliban too, although it is unclear to what extent Washington would like to engage them. However, Bangladesh, which is undergoing a political transition under the new regime, will face challenges and a potential reduction in assistance.

China and the region

Mr. Trump's confrontational approach to China will also put South Asian countries under more pressure. Given his erratic decisions, Washington will likely be less tolerant of South Asian countries' agency and consistent playing of one great power against the other. Besides, the region's consistent politicisation and ambiguity over investments, defence cooperation, and agreements will likely invite more pressure from the U.S. to seek reciprocity. However, his promise of bringing peace between Russia and Ukraine and resolving the crisis in West Asia (if successful) will help weakened South Asian economies to overcome their food and fuel inflationary pressures.

As the world braces for Trump 2.0, South Asia will not be immune to the broader structural shifts. Yet, the region is likely to see more continuity. With India and the U.S. likely to increase their cooperation in South Asia and bridge their divergences, Mr. Trump's ideology, leadership style, and management of great power politics will have opportunities and challenges for the region. How South Asian countries will cope with the new administration, even as they balance China and India, is yet to be seen.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Court's 'freeze' order

The Supreme Court of India's freeze on suits on claims over places of worship is a source of relief. Most Indians are descendants of migrants from other parts of the world — an inconvenient truth for some political narratives. This is a point that was also highlighted by the former Supreme Court judge, Justice Markandey Katju, in 2011.

India's history, marked by waves of migrations and invasions, has seen countless instances of places of worship being destroyed, repurposed, or rebuilt. Similarly, invaders have often displaced earlier settlers. Seeking justice for every such historical grievance is impractical and endless. Worse, entertaining such cases risks perpetuating communal strife and minority demonisation, which may serve divisive agendas but is certainly not in the national interest.

No right-thinking citizen could possibly dispute the wisdom behind The Places of Worship Act, 1991.

G.G. Menon,
Tripunithura, Ernakulam, Kerala

Fading cooperation

A significant stockpile of chemical weapons is said to have fallen into the hands of rebels in Syria. Israel continues its conflicts in Gaza, Lebanon, and other areas. Meanwhile, the war between Ukraine and Russia persists. Perhaps war is a reflection of our never-ending desires, which we mistakenly perceive as essential for survival. Mutual cooperation is the key to our survival. Yet, we ignore this fundamental truth.

Jitesh Mori,
Kutch, Gujarat

The great win, in Singapore

D. Gukesh's achievement is a source of great inspiration. His hard work, perseverance and fighting spirit are what have made him a champion and brought glory to India.

Dr. Arunachalam,
Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu

The nail-biting win reminds me of the phrase, "Success is when preparation meets opportunities". His hard work, determination and perseverance paid off.

R. Srivatsan,
Chennai

When Bobby Fischer of the U.S. challenged the Soviet Union's Boris Spassky, the Americans rejoiced in it as a victory of their acumen over Soviet might.

Today, as India finds ways to tackle China, Gukesh's victory over Ding Liren mirrors this — that Indians are formidable and a young India cannot be underestimated.

Pragya Jain,
New Delhi

The games between Gukesh and Ding were gripping. It was Viswanathan Anand who elevated Indian chess. It is now the turn of Gukesh and other youngsters to continue the good work.

Prabhakaran Vallath,
Vatakara, Kozhikode, Kerala

Gukesh's win was the result of his perseverance and mettle in the mind game. His success will attract many young minds towards the game. India has the foundation now to rule the world of chess.

D.V.G. Sankara Rao,
Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh

At just 18, Gukesh has demonstrated that conquering the world is possible at a young age. Thursday was a historic day for Indian chess.

Dattaprasad Shirodkar,
Mumbai

Gukesh is to chess what Sachin Tendulkar was to cricket.

R. Shankaran,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

It is a historic moment for India. With many youngsters showing great talent in the game, there is a lot of hope in India.

Abdulla Ameen P.M.,
Adimali, Idukki, Kerala

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

A bust of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the first Prime Minister of Bangladesh, stands near a bust of Mahatma Gandhi near Sealdah railway station in Kolkata. The marble busts were installed in 2023. This is one of the few sculptures of Rahman that has not been removed. DEBASISH BHADURI

Fractured bonds along the border

As attacks on minorities continue in Bangladesh, the movement of people and goods into West Bengal has been impacted. Strained bilateral ties and protests by religious organisations, monks, and Hindutva groups are affecting the tourism and medical tourism industries and cultural sector in the State. **Shrabana Chatterjee** and **Shiv Sahay Singh** report on how the ripples of the crisis are spreading to bordering West Bengal

A peek into Bangladesh through the integrated check post in West Bengal at the Petrapole-Benapole border shows that a mural of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, which was visible from the Indian side before August 5, has been whitewashed. The flag of Bangladesh unfurls where the mural of Rahman, the founding leader of Bangladesh who has now fallen out of favour, used to be.

Change is visible not only in Bangladesh, but also in India. It is early December. Trucks pass by as usual and people can be heard bargaining with transporters, but the buzz is drowned by slogans of 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' and 'Jai Shri Ram'.

Anjuna Begum, a Bangladeshi national, is trying to cross the border. Many of her relatives married Indians and stay in West Bengal, so she often visits India. "I heard rumours that the border may be sealed. But our lives cut across the border," Begum says, as she checks her belongings.

As hundreds of people cross over, thousands of saffron-clad men gather at the spot in Petrapole to protest against the attack on Hindus in Bangladesh and demand the release of Chinmoy Krishna Das, a monk from ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness), who was arrested in Bangladesh in November.

By afternoon, the Leader of the Opposition in the West Bengal Assembly, Suvendu Adhikari, arrives and releases saffron balloons in the air. In his speech, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader threatens to stop all trade between India and Bangladesh through Petrapole if the ISKCON monk is not released.

Just five weeks earlier, Adhikari had visited Petrapole with Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who inaugurated a new passenger terminal and Maitri Dwar (friendship gate). Shah had said that trade between India and Bangladesh had increased by 64% between 2016-17 and 2023-24. He had also pointed out that 70% of India's total trade (₹30,000 crore) with Bangladesh through land is via Petrapole and stressed that the new infrastructure will increase the passenger capacity to 25,000 daily.

When Adhikari threatened an economic blockade of Bangladesh at Petrapole, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee urged the Union government to take up the matter of attacks on minorities in Bangladesh with the United Nations, so that peacekeeping missions may be deployed. Ever since the West Bengal unit of the BJP and Hindutva groups began protesting against the treatment of Hindus in Bangladesh, Banerjee has been claiming that this is a bilateral issue that should be dealt with by the Union government.

Tourists go back home

Among the most popular spots for Bangladeshi tourists in Kolkata is located in the centre of the city, just a couple of kilometres from the State Assembly. Every morning, air-conditioned buses with 'Destination Dhaka' written on them line up at Sudder Street, Free School Street, Colin Street, and Marquis Street in central Kolkata, to take tourists back home across the border.

> About 90% of our hotels are generally occupied by people from Bangladesh; now it is down to 5%
>
> **MONTOSH SARKAR**
> Owner of hotels and travel firms

By the end of November and early December, as reports of violence against minorities in Bangladesh piled up, and protests erupted in West Bengal, frightened Bangladeshi nationals started leaving the area, popularly called 'mini-Bangladesh' by the locals. Many of them were receiving frantic calls from home, given the now-strained ties between India and Bangladesh.

On December 2, in response to a Lok Sabha question by BJP MP Jagannath Sarkar, the Ministry of Tourism informed Parliament that the number of foreign tourists from Bangladesh in 2023 was 21.19 lakh and 12.85 lakh until August 2024. The drop in the number of Bangladeshi tourists was 20.26% in July and 38.08% in August compared to the same month of the last year, the Ministry said.

Montosh Sarkar, who runs several hotels and travel firms on Marquis Street, is worried. "About 90% of our hotels are generally occupied by people from Bangladesh; now it is down to 5%. I have more than 35 employees and their families to feed," he says. Sarkar adds that there are about 150 registered hotels in the area which are dependent on Bangladeshi nationals. The situation is likely to worsen if political tensions do not ease and the Indian government does not grant visas to Bangladeshi nationals, he says.

Md Alauddin, 38, who runs the Marquis Calcutta Guest House on Marquis Street, is keen to show how he has transformed an old dilapidated building into a guest house. "There are 13 rooms and only three are occupied by Bangladeshi nationals now. In August, the business was affected, but now the impact is even worse. The movement of people should not stop," he says.

Alauddin emphasises that hotel operators go the extra mile in ensuring the safety and security of people from neighbouring countries, such as by installing CCTV cameras. He then barges into the room of Sadiqullaqh Mirsalim, a resident of Dhaka, without knocking. "He is like my brother and will not mind," Alauddin says, smiling, as he introduces his guest from Dhaka.

Mirsalim is on a medical visa and plans to stay for a month at the guest house. "We don't consider India as a foreign country," he says. "We get everything here. If there is a marriage in the family, people come to shop here."

Asked about the political rhetoric, Mirsalim says, "How can we dislike India? This country helps us in so many ways."

Thousands of shops in the area and in the adjoining British-era New Market complex primarily cater to Bangladeshis. Travel agents, garment sellers, traders dealing in spices, and restaurant owners are all counting their losses and hoping that the situation will change.

The ripple effect

The impact is not limited to trade in central Kolkata; it cuts across sectors, including health. For decades, patients from Bangladesh have come to hospitals in Kolkata for treatment. Tour operators say the number of visas granted to Bangladeshi citizens by the Indian High Commission has dropped, affecting medical tourism.

The fast-deteriorating ties between the two countries has clearly aggravated the situation. A little-known 130-bed hospital in Kolkata, the J.N. Ray Hospital, said that it would not treat patients from Bangladesh. Though it is well known that a prominent BJP leader in Kolkata owns a stake in the private hospital, the remarks created panic for Bangladeshi patients visiting Kolkata.

However, other private hospitals in Kolkata say they have not changed their policy. "Every patient deserves equal care, regardless of nationality or background," says Rupak Barua, Managing Director and CEO, Woodlands Multispecialty Hospital. He adds that the number of outpatient department patients from Bangladesh has fallen by 60% in the last four months at Woodlands.

Sudipta Mitra, CEO of Peerless Hospitals, says on a regular day, the hospital receives around 150 outpatients from Bangladesh and 25 admissions. "The number of Bangladeshi patients has now reduced due to visa issues, but when they come back, we will treat them just as we treat other patients," he says.

With Bangladeshi patients in Kolkata's private hospitals dropping by 60% to 80%, several hospitals in Kolkata are rescheduling the dates for surgery and other procedures for patients from the neighbouring country.

> We don't consider India as a foreign country. We get everything here. If there is a marriage in the family, people come to shop here
>
> **SADIQULLAQH MIRSALIM**
> Resident of Dhaka

An eye for eye

The political developments have also brought religious organisations, monks, and Hindutva organisations into the limelight.

Journalists would visit the ISKCON Centre, located in the posh neighbourhood of south Kolkata, only during the annual Rath Yatra festival. But since November 25, when a monk of the order was arrested in Bangladesh, Radharaman Das, the vice president of the Kolkata Centre, has been giving interviews regularly to the media.

Seated in his office on the second floor, Das explains before TV cameras why he has advised ISKCON monks in Bangladesh not to wear saffron or tilaks. "We have hundreds of centres and thousands of monks in Bangladesh. ISKCON has been a target ever since the Sheikh Hasina regime fell," he says. But Das admits that he is receiving second-hand information and that telephone networks don't work most of the time in Bangladesh.

Monks from other orders, and Hindutva organisations, have also been organising protests across West Bengal. Kartik Maharaj, of the Bharat Sevashram order from Beldanga, has been seen with Adhikari at several protests. The Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha, led by Chandrachud Goswami, has been going to hotels and shops in Kolkata asking them to boycott products and people from Bangladesh. Three or four people of the group burned products from Bangladesh, especially potato chips, which are quite the rage in markets in Kolkata.

The Bangladesh Deputy High Commission has became a popular protest spot. A mural of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on the outer wall of the Deputy High Commission has been covered by cloth. Security has been stepped up at the venue after protests by Hindutva groups on November 28 turned violent – protesters broke barricades and burnt an effigy of Mohammad Yunus, the Chief Advisor to the Government of Bangladesh.

By the second week of December, the Trinamool leadership started reacting to reports. Every remark made by politicians in Bangladesh found a reaction from politicians in West Bengal. Both Banerjee and Adhikari demanded that the Indian government intervene in Bangladesh even as India's Foreign Secretary, Vikram Misri, visited the country on December 9 for the first time after the fall of the Sheikh Hasina regime.

Days after Bangladesh National Party leader Ruhul Kabir Rizvi said in Dhaka that if India claims Chittagong, Bangladesh will occupy Bengal, Bihar, and Odisha, Banerjee said, "You will take all this and we will sit and eat lollipops?" When Rizvi burnt sarees from India in Bangladesh, Hindutva organisations set Dhakai sarees from Bangladesh on fire in Kolkata and Durgapur.

Life comes to a halt

Along the border with Bangladesh, the Border Security Force has been pushed to the zero line in at least three battalions of Murshidabad. Of the 4,096 kilometre-long border with Bangladesh, West Bengal shares 2,216 km.

The heightened activity at the border, the war of words, threats of economic blockade, and the burning of imported goods makes Pabitra Sarkar, 87, sad. "Both Bengals (West Bengal and Bangladesh) were inheritors of the composite culture legacy of undivided Bengal. Everything about our culture – our language and all the songs of Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam – are part of our shared history," says the former Vice Chancellor of Rabindra Bharati University.

The academic, who was born in Dhaka, says he was in that city when the Sheikh Hasina regime fell in August this year. "My friends there kept me protected in August 2024. I have been to Bangladesh 100-150 times. Bangladeshis are such welcoming people," he says. Sarkar is concerned that extremists are gaining ground in Bangladesh.

Academics, artists, publishers, and filmmakers are also upset. Bangladeshi publishers have not confirmed whether they will come to the Kolkata International Book Fair in January 2025. There are hardly any Bangladeshi filmmakers participating at the Kolkata International Film Festival. Clubs at Kolkata Maidan, such as the East Bengal club, have issued statements against the "systemic targeting of minorities" in Bangladesh. Many supporters of the East Bengal Club trace their ancestry to the country.

While the strain in relations peaked in the last week of November, disruptions in the movement of people and goods began in July, when the bus and railway services were suspended. The two trains running between West Bengal and Bangladesh were halted on July 19. The trains are run by the Sealdah Division of the Eastern Railway.

An official of the Railway Division says, "The names of the two trains – Bandhan Express and Maitree Express – are synonyms of our bonds and friendship ['bandhan' means bond and 'Maitree' means friendship], whereas the train between India and Pakistan was called the Samjhauta Express ['samjhauta' means compromise]."

Just outside the Sealdah Railway Station, one of the largest in the State, stands a 20-foot bust of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman alongside one of Mahatma Gandhi. This is probably the only sculpture of his which has not been covered, whitewashed, or removed. The marble busts were erected only a year ago by a local Trinamool MLA, to celebrate the ties between the two countries and particularly between Bangladesh and West Bengal.

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DON'T BAN ISKCON BANGLADESH
WE ARE NOT TERRORISTS
I AM NOT A TERRORIST
ALL EYES ON HINDUS IN BANGLADESH
from WARZONE to ISKCON

Protesters including Radharaman Das, vice president of the ISKCON Kolkata Centre demand the release of Chinmoy Krishna Das in Bangladesh. DEBASISH BHADURI

From Page One

Cong. chose power over Constitution: Rajnath

Mr. Singh cited the imposition of the Emergency, the dismissal of many State governments and the supercession of Supreme Court judges to charge the Congress with violating Constitutional principles.

"These days, I see that many Opposition leaders keep the Constitution in their pockets. Actually, this is what they have learnt from childhood, they have seen their families keep the Constitution in their pockets for generations," Mr. Singh said, apparently taking a dig at Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi who has been carrying a pocket Constitution to public rallies and events.

Leaders 'ignored'

Mr. Singh said that some leaders who helped frame the Constitution have been deliberately ignored. He claimed that there were many who were not part of the Constituent Assembly but who contributed to making the Constitution, and mentioned Veer Savarkar, Bhagat Singh, Madan Mohan Malviya and Lala Lajpat Rai.

He said many "many big leaders" had, in 1944, come out with 'The Constitution of Hindustan Free State' to share their ideas for the Constitution that they felt India should adopt after its Independence. The Defence Minister said they had called for ensuring citizens' religious freedom and said that the State must be secular. The Congress, however, had dubbed them "communal".

The senior BJP leader also recalled a series of instances from the past, when Congress leaders – including Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, and Manmohan Singh – had made several amendments to the Constitution.

Mr. Singh added that while many talk about the founding fathers of the Constitution, not much is spoken about the founding mothers, and mentioned leaders like Sucheta Kriplani, Hansa Mehta, and Kamla Chaudhry while noting that the NDA government had passed the law to reserve legislative seats to politically empower women.

He also criticised the Congress for overturning a Supreme Court judgment to deny alimony to a divorced Muslim woman as "appeasement politics".

Emergency and Article 356

Lashing out at the Congress while participating in the debate, Panchayati Raj Minister and Janata Dal (United) leader Rajiv Ranjan Lalan Singh recounted how many times previous Congress governments at the Centre had misused Article 356 to topple Opposition governments in the States.

The JD(U) leader asserted that it is the fear of the Constitution that had prompted Congress governments to invoke Article 356 under the cover of darkness. "Emergency was also imposed at midnight," he said.

As long as Prime Minister Narendra Modi is there, nobody can tamper with the Constitution, the Panchayati Raj Minister said. "Narendra Modi *ji* is the protector of the Constitution... This is Modi's guarantee," he said.

'Ambedkar wanted UCC'

BJP MP Bhartruhari Mahtab blamed India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru for mishandling Jammu and Kashmir, and claimed that B.R. Ambedkar had never supported Article 370 of the Constitution that conferred special status on J&K. "It's God's grace and Lord Jagannath's blessings that Prime Minister Modi abrogated it," he said.

Another BJP MP, Jagdambika Pal, recalled how Ambedkar had advocated for a uniform civil code (UCC). "If the country moves towards a UCC, it will be a fitting tribute," he said.

Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) MP Sambhavi Choudhury recounted the number of communal riots that had broken out during the tenure of former Prime Ministers such as Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, and questioned the Congress's secular credentials.

Opposition notice seeks HC judge's impeachment

The allegations made by the Opposition were that Justice Yadav "engaged in hate speech and incitement to communal disharmony in violation of the Constitution, targeted minorities and displayed bias and prejudice against them; and entered into "public debate or expressed his views in public on political matters relating to Uniform Civil Code in violation of the Restatement of Values of Judicial Life - 1997".

The petition states that under Article 124(4) and 124(5) when read with Article 217(1)(B) and Article 218 of the Constitution of India, a judge may be removed from office on grounds of actions that "undermine judicial ethics, impartiality and public trust in the judiciary".

Justice Yadav's conduct, the Opposition stated, was in contravention of the directive principles enshrined in Article 51 A(e) of the Constitution of India, which mandate promoting harmony and renouncing practices derogatory to the dignity of individuals.

The use of prejudicial language against Muslims, the petition says, jeopardises the judiciary's role as a "neutral arbiter" and "protector of rights for all citizens".

Inquiry committee sought

They have urged Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar to admit the motion to initiate proceedings to remove Justice Yadav and also sought an inquiry committee to investigate Justice Yadav's conduct in view of the alleged violation of "judicial ethics".

PM should know that Constitution is not Sangh's rulebook, says Priyanka

Wayanad MP accuses BJP of trying to change the Constitution, transferring national resources to a business group, committing atrocities on women, and fuelling violence in Sambhal and Manipur; Akhilesh Yadav calls for caste census

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not understood that it is *Bharat ka Samvidhan* (Constitution of India) not *Sangh ka Vidhan* (rulebook of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh), Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said in her debut speech in the Lok Sabha on Friday.

As the first MP from the Opposition benches to speak after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh opened the debate on the 'Glorious Journey of 75 Years of the Constitution of India', Ms. Vadra made some sharp political points, was combative but didn't raise her voice as she put forth the major planks of the Opposition.

Alleged attempts to change the Constitution by the BJP, "handing over national resources" to the one particular business group, atrocities on women, the violence in Uttar Pradesh's Sambhal and Manipur and the demand for a nationwide caste census were some of the major points in her maiden speech.

The Prime Minister was not present in the House.

In her 32-minute speech, the newly elected member from Wayanad (Kerala) claimed that the ruling party would have started changing the Constitution, had it not been restrained by the present Lok Sabha mandate of 240 members. She also dared the BJP to hold elections by using the ballot paper, saying it will expose the reality.

Maiden speech: Priyanka Gandhi Vadra addresses the Lok Sabha during the Winter session of Parliament in New Delhi on Friday. PTI

'Protective shield'

Describing the Constitution as a *suraksha kavach* (protective shield) of justice, unity and freedom of expression, Ms. Vadra alleged that the BJP-led government has made every effort to break this shield in the past 10 years. She accused the BJP of following "divisive politics" and sowing the seeds of "suspicion and hatred".

"The *'suraksha kavach'* of unity is being broken. The Prime Minister places the Constitution on his forehead but when there are cries for justice from Sambhal, Hathras and Manipur, there is not a wrinkle on his forehead," the Wayanad MP said. "It seems Prime Minister Modi hasn't understood that *Bharat ka Samvidhan* is not *Sangh ka Vidhan*," she said.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, her mother and Congress Parliamentary Party chief Sonia Gandhi, husband Robert Vadra and son Raihan watched the proceedings from the visitors' gallery.

Her brother and Opposition leader in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi described her speech as "better than mine".

Climate of fear

Ms. Vadra claimed that an atmosphere of fear had enveloped the country but now this fear had "engulfed the ruling party too", as it seeks to "run away" from answering questions in Parliament.

"Today, people are intimidated into submission and are scared of speaking the truth. Be it a journalist or an Opposition leader or a university professor, everyone's mouth is shut. Opposition leaders are investigated by the ED, CBI, IT and are jailed," she said.

Taking on the ruling party for constantly blaming her great grandfather and India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, Ms. Vadra said the BJP should tell the country what they were doing now. "What is your responsibility? Or does all the responsibility lie with Jawaharlal Nehru *ji*?" she asked, adding, "His name can be erased from the books, but his role in the Independence struggle and nation-building can never be erased from this country".

Responding to Mr. Singh's criticism on the 1975 Emergency, imposed by her grandmother and former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, she said, "My colleague in the ruling party recounted the past, this happened, that happened... what happened in 1975. You also learn from it, you also apologise for your mistakes."

Home Minister Amit Shah was present in the House along with other senior leaders of the BJP. Ms. Vadra pointed to Mr. Modi's absence from the House. "I am new to this House and I have been coming here only for the past 15 days but I could spot *Pradhan Mantri ji* only for 10 minutes," she said.

SP's push

Former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister and Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, who spoke after her, said that "whenever we get the opportunity, we will conduct a caste census". "It will not deepen caste divisions but reduce them, ensuring rights and equality for those who have been deprived for long. Reservation is the most significant tool for social justice, but it has been diluted by outsourcing and contract-based jobs," he said.

He said the government was trying to end reservation through outsourcing and contractual jobs.

Mr. Yadav claimed that efforts were under way to reduce the country's minorities, particularly Muslims, to "second-grade" citizens. "Atrocities against them are increasing daily. Properties are being looted, homes razed, and places of worship seized with administrative help."

Opposition is against my 'category': Dhankhar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Speaking out against the Opposition's no-confidence notice against him, Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Friday that their campaign was not against him, but against the category to which he belongs. The Opposition cannot stomach the fact that a "farmer's son" is occupying the Chairman's position, he claimed.

The Upper House was adjourned within the first hour of its morning session, with BJP MPs rallying against the Opposition's no-confidence motion.

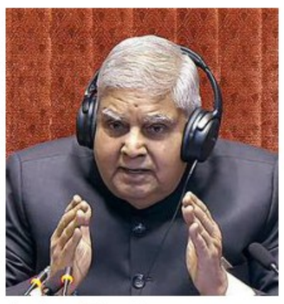
"Day in and day out there is only a campaign against the Chairman... It's a campaign not against me, it's a campaign against the category to which I belong," he said.

The Opposition is entitled to bring a motion against him, but is "deviating" from the Constitutional provisions, he alleged.

'Wait 14 days'

"You gave a notice that we received. You asked a question in your press conference, 'What has happened to the notice?', giving an impression that the Chairman is sitting on the notice... Who stopped your proposal? Read the law, your proposal has come, [it can be admitted only] after 14 days. You have started a campaign," he remarked. This session ends on December 20.

Inviting the ruling and Opposition parties for talks to break the ongoing deadlock in the Upper House, Mr. Dhankhar underlined, "I am a farmer's son, I will not show weakness, I will die for the country, perish for the country." He urged Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge to come for a dialogue with an open mind.



Jagdeep Dhankhar

To this, a visibly angry Mr. Kharge retorted, "How can I respect you? You are insulting me." As he was speaking, the Chair adjourned the proceedings till Monday. According to sources, Mr. Kharge ignored the invitation and no talks were held between the two sides.

The proceedings of the day began on a confrontational note with BJP MP Radha Mohan Das Agrawal offering scathing criticism of the Opposition. Raising a point of order, Mr. Agarwal said that the impeachment notice was an insult to the nation and to farmers. He noted that the rules specify that such a notice is to be taken up after 14 days but the Congress leaders have already gone to the press with their allegations.

The Congress, he claimed, has a history of "insulting Presidents and Vice-Presidents". As the country's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru used to "continuously insult President Rajendra Prasad", Mr. Agrawal alleged. He went on to add that Mr. Prasad was not given a cremation in the national capital and was even deprived of medical facilities when he was ill.

"Nehru asked [the then-President] Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan not to attend Prasad's funeral in Patna. But Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan did not listen to the Prime Minister and he went for the funeral," he said. His remarks drew howls of protest from the Opposition. At least three other BJP MPs spoke on similar lines, backing Mr. Agrawal's allegations.

When he was briefly given the floor, Mr. Kharge alleged that the Chairman was encouraging BJP members and giving more time to them.

"Make them sit. We have not come here to listen to praises for you," the Congress president said.

Mahua Moitra

Trinamool MP's remark on judge's death sparks uproar in LS

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Friday witnessed two adjournments after Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju warned Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra for her remarks about the death of a judge, the circumstances of whose death were examined and settled by the Supreme Court.

Ms. Moitra made a passing, but contentious, remark on a judge's death while targeting the BJP for alleged attempts to silence institutions and Opposition leaders critical of the government.

While the name of the judge was expunged from the records of the Lok Sabha, his death in 2014 had created a major row following a media report alleging foul play as he was hearing a politically sensitive case.

Mr. Rijiju said that the case of the judge's death was settled by the Supreme Court. "We will take appropriate parliamentary action. You cannot escape. You are setting a very wrong precedents," he told Ms. Moitra.

BJP member Nishikant Dubey had first raised the issue after Ms. Moitra finished her speech.

This agitated the Opposition MPs, who demanded an apology. In a post on X, reacting to Mr. Rijiju, Ms. Moitra said all those reporting that "Parliament Affairs Minster warned me – it is he who will face action for threatening me! His remarks to be deleted – not mine!"

When the House reconvened after two adjournments, senior Opposition members including Saugata Roy of the Trinamool Congress and K.C. Venugopal of the Congress, protested against Mr. Rijiju's choice of words, emphasising that it was Speaker Om Birla who is the custodian of Lok Sabha.

'We have set new targets for Madhya Pradesh's growth'

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, on completing one year in the top post, says his government is continuing existing schemes and striving to bring in more development projects and investment; the Ken-Betwa river linking project will be the key to removing poverty from Budelkhand region, he adds

INTERVIEW

Mohan Yadav

Mehul Malpani
BHOPAL

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav completed one year in office on Friday. He succeeded a popular CM, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who had helmed the State for more than 16 years. The BJP's decision to pick Mr. Yadav for the top post had left many surprised as there were several contenders to the role. When asked to speak about his experience working with colleagues who are seen as politically senior to him, Mr. Yadav firmly stated that no Minister was senior to the Chief Minister. Excerpts from an exclusive interview:

How has your experience been in the past one year? What were the challenges? How difficult was it to make your own identity?

It was a new job so naturally there were challenges. We [the BJP] had been in government for a long time and Shivraj Singh Chouhan *ji* had established his own image. We started taking the work forward. I was very junior compared to him but I had support from him and all others, so, I am here today.

One advantage I had was that I had worked with governmental and administrative bodies. I had also served as the [Higher] Education Minister and the Tourism Board Chairman. So, I had no doubts about my administrative ability and I have no personal agenda here. I am also a *swayamsevak* of the RSS and we are trained to undertake any responsibility.

A.M. FARUQUI

And as promised, we did not discontinue any ongoing scheme but also set new targets for ourselves. For example, we have achieved success on two mega projects – Ken-Betwa river linking project and Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (PKC) river linking project.

It is a big feat under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership that the foundation is being laid for these projects, involving multiple States, in our one-year term.

While the PKC project will benefit the north-western parts of Madhya Pradesh, the Ken-Betwa is the key to erase the Bundelkhand region's poverty.

How has been your experience working with a Cabinet that has various Ministers who are seen as politically senior to you? Have there been any power clashes?

Nobody is senior to the Chief Minister. The CM is CM and the Ministers are Ministers. They are part of the Council of Ministers and their voices should be heard in the Cabinet meetings.

You have been making constant efforts to bring investment to the State. At what stage are the proposals received in and how many of them have materialised?

More than 50% proposals have materialised. Wherever we have held investor summits, we have put up a screen for industrialists to see the progress on previous projects.

As a result, all the officials have understood that they have to work on this front.

You have promised to continue all schemes but the State's total debt is close to ₹4 lakh crore. How do you plan to carry on with schemes like Ladli Behna?

You should compare it with how much money the State has. We have not surpassed our debt limit, as fixed by the Government of India. If we are running all the schemes, this means that we are quite capable but take loans to maintain our balance sheet.

(Full interview is at newsth.live/mohanyadav)

Projects, trade helped sustain ties with our neighbours: Jaishankar

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Friday defended the neighbourhood policy of the Indian government and said it was necessary to avoid "punch scoring" in relations with neighbours.

Mr. Jaishankar said the government had promoted development projects and trade that have helped sustain ties with neighbours.

His remarks came in response to a question from the Congress's Chandigarh MP, Manish Tewari, who said the current status of India's relationship with the Maldives, Bangladesh, and Nepal presented a challenging scenario.

"Our neighbours also have their politics. There are ups and downs in their countries, it will have implication for us. It is important that we are mature and we do not get into punch scoring," the Minister said.

Mr. Jaishankar said that as an MP, Mr. Tewari enjoyed privileges while arguing his point, but he would prefer a non-partisan approach towards foreign policy.

"Sir, I am very glad, that the honourable member referred to timing of visits (of leaders of the neighbouring countries). Before PM Narendra Modi went to Nepal, for 17 years there was no visits to Nepal. Does that mean nobody in India cared for Nepal... Visits are important, I accept it. Visits are also subject of timing, of convenience of agenda," he said.

Sri Lankan President to begin his three-day India visit tomorrow

Dissanayake's visit to India will focus on strengthening bilateral ties, and addressing key issues; it will also mark a shift in India-Sri Lanka relations

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Future focus: President Anura Kumara Dissanayake with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in Colombo on October 4. AP

Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake will visit India from December 15 to 17, the Foreign Ministries of the two countries said on Friday, announcing his first state visit abroad since he won the Presidency in September and his party swept the polls in the November general elections.

During his visit to New Delhi, Mr. Dissanayake will meet President Droupadi Murmu and hold bilateral discussions with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and "and other Indian dignitaries on a range of issues of mutual interest", Sri Lanka's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement on Friday.

President Dissanayake is also scheduled to participate in a business event in New Delhi aimed at "promoting investment and commercial linkages between India and Sri Lanka" and later, travel to Bodh Gaya, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs.

This visit assumes significance in the wake of his party's resounding victory in the recent parliamentary election and amid his government's effort to rebuild the country's crisis-hit economy.

In the meetings scheduled, bilateral development projects and potential Indian investments are likely to be discussed, in addition to debt treatment as part of Sri Lanka's current IMF programme. India's proposals for greater connectivity with Sri Lanka are expected to be reviewed. Energy sector cooperation and the persisting fisheries conflict in the Palk Strait are also on the agenda, official sources said.

The future of a controversial Adani power project in Sri Lanka will also likely be discussed. Following the recent indictment of the Adani Group by a U.S. court, the Dissanayake administration said it is reviewing the wind power project that the former government had approved for execution in northern Sri Lanka.

While on his campaign trail earlier, Mr. Dissanayake had pledged to cancel the "corrupt deal", challenging the pricing formula in the power purchasing agreement reached without a competitive bid.

Mr. Dissanayake's visit turns a page in the complex story of India-Sri Lanka ties, especially for the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP or People's Liberation Front) that leads the ruling National People's Power alliance.

In the 1980s, the JVP militantly opposed "Indian hegemony" and the India-brokered Accord. Even as the party with Marxist-Leninist roots refashioned itself, Mr. Dissanayake has repeatedly sought to allay fears of "anti-Indian" sentiments. "The world has changed, our party has also changed," he told *The Hindu* in a 2023 interview. Further, Mr. Dissanayake's election manifesto stated: "We shall not allow any country or institution to use Sri Lanka's land, sea and air spaces to threaten or risk the national security of any country in the region including India."

Subbulakshmi's name can be used for prize to be given to T.M. Krishna: HC

Mohamed Imranullah S.
CHENNAI

A Division Bench of the Madras High Court on Friday set aside an interim injunction granted by a single judge on November 19 restraining the Music Academy and *The Hindu* from giving away a cash prize of one lakh under the title 'Sangita Kalanidhi M.S. Subbulakshmi Award' to Carnatic singer T.M. Krishna.

The High Court's second Division Bench, comprising Justices S.S. Sundar and P. Dhanabal, allowed an appeal filed by *The Hindu* challenging the single judge's restraint order against the use of the name of M.S. Subbulakshmi for the cash prize being given, since 2005, to the Sangita Kalanidhi awardees selected by the Music Academy.

"Conferment of an award by an organization or a trust in memory of a legend to an individual is a recognition of his/her achievement and is not prohibited in law.... Conferment of award to a person by defendants 1 to 3 (Music Academy and *The Hindu*) in the suit is a right which is not forbidden or prohibited in law," the Bench wrote.

"Even assuming, though we are not agreeing, that the desire of M.S. Subbulakshmi was that no award shall be conferred on anyone in her name or in memory of her, how can it be enforced if conferment of the award is not by way of exploiting her personality but by way of honouring her achievements," the judges wondered.

The acclaimed musician's grandson, V. Shrinivasan, had filed a civil suit against the use of his grandmother's name for the cash prize on the ground that she had left behind a will stating that "no trust, foundation or memorial of any kind, including erecting of any statue or bust, shall be formed or created or made in my name".

High notes: Carnatic singer T.M. Krishna performing at an event to mark M.S. Subbulakshmi's birth centenary in 2016.

> Except some personal reasons against fourth defendant (Mr. Krishna), the plaintiff has no *bona fide* cause in this litigation
> **MADRAS HC**

Plain language

Though the single judge had interpreted the word 'memorial' found in the will to include awards and cash prizes too and held that there was a bar on naming them after her, the Division Bench disagreed with him. "This court is unable to accept the logic or reasoning of the learned single judge," it said.

"Had it been the intention of the testatrix that no award shall be conferred on anyone in her name, that could have been expressed in simple language. An interpretation contrary to the plain language of the instrument is not permissible in law," the Division Bench said.

Authoring the verdict, Justice Sundar also said, a careful reading of the contents of the will only leads to a conclusion that the testatrix did not want her name to be misused for creating trusts, foundations, and memorials by soliciting public funds.

Further taking note that several other organisations had instituted awards named after M.S. Subbulakshmi and many institutions, including the Asian College of Journalism, had auditoriums too named after her, the judges questioned the reason for Mr. Shrinivasan not having challenged any of those awards.

"Every award in the name of M.S. Subbulakshmi was only to remember the great icon of Carnatic music... Except some personal reasons against fourth defendant (Mr. Krishna), the plaintiff has no *bona fide* cause in this litigation," the Bench concluded.

It, however, refused to entertain Music Academy's plea to reject the plaint in toto and said, the plaintiff could establish his case by conducting a full-fledged trial in the civil suit pending before the single judge but held that he had not made out a *prima facie* case for grant of interim injunction until the disposal of the suit.

The Bench also said: "The testatrix has created a legacy. Every family member enjoys certain respect in the society for being her relative. In such circumstances, it is difficult to accept that everyone in the family of late Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi will sail with the plaintiff."

Case before SC

Within minutes after the Division Bench pronounced the operative portion of its order on Friday afternoon and said that a detailed order would follow in the course of the day, senior counsel N. Venkataraman, who also holds the post of Additional Solicitor-General in the Supreme Court, made a mention for an urgent hearing before a Bench led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna.

Mr. Venkataraman said the cash prize was scheduled to be given to Mr. Krishna on Sunday, but the CJI rejected his plea for an urgent hearing of the proposed appeal and said, it could be taken up only on Monday. The CJI also orally remarked that the case was related to an award which could always be recalled if there was any merit in the case of the appellant.

Painting on 1971 surrender replaced in Army chief's lounge, veterans miffed

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

A new painting adorning the Army chief's lounge, where he greets visiting dignitaries, has miffed the veteran community. The painting replaced the one showing Pakistan's surrender during the 1971 Bangladesh war.

Army sources said the new painting, 'Karam Kshetra - Field of Deeds', done by Lt. Col. Thomas Jacob of the 28 Madras Regiment, portrays the Army as a "guardian of Dharma, fighting not merely as a defender of the nation but to uphold justice and protect the nation's values", and also captures the Army's evolution into a "technologically advanced, integrated force".

It shows snow-capped mountains in the backdrop, with the Pangong Tso Lake in eastern Ladakh on the right, and Garuda and Krishna's chariot on the left, along with Chanakya and modern equipment such as tanks, all-terrain vehicles, infantry vehicles, patrol boats, indigenous light combat helicopters and Apache attack helicopters.

Officials seen standing before the painting showing Pakistan's surrender during the 1971 Bangladesh war. ADG PI - INDIAN ARMY/X

This painting represents the Army's timeless commitment to righteousness, as drawn from the teachings of the Mahabharata, sources said. "It portrays the Army as a guardian of Dharma, fighting not merely as a defender of the nation but to uphold justice and protect the nation's values. This inspiration is complemented by the strategic and philosophical wisdom of Chanakya, whose principles guide the Army's approach to leadership, diplomacy, and warfare," a source said.

Sources said the new painting reflects how the modern Indian Army is equipped with cutting-edge systems, seamless coordination across land, air, and sea, and the readiness to strike swiftly and decisively against adversaries. "At its core, the painting honours the Army's legacy of sacrifice, discipline, and valour, while highlighting its preparedness to meet future challenges with unwavering resolve," they added.

However, several veterans expressed concern on social media over the reason behind the move. Former Northern Army Commander Lt. Gen. H.S. Panag posted, "The photo/painting symbolising India's first major military victory in a 1,000 years and also first as a united nation, in 1971, has been removed by a hierarchy which believes that mythology, religion and distant fragmented feudal past will inspire future victories."

"One wonders what is the aim behind removal of the iconic 1971 Dacca surrender photo," Air Vice Marshal Manmohan Singh (retd.) said on X. "Dignitaries & military heads of other countries meet the Army Chief here & see the symbol of the GREATEST EVENT IN INDIA's & Indian Army's history. Now, this ham-handed effort - at what?" he observed.

Ex-NCW chief Rekha Sharma elected to RS

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

Former National Commission for Women (NCW) chairperson and BJP leader Rekha Sharma was declared elected unopposed in the Rajya Sabha bypoll from Haryana after the deadline for withdrawal of nomination ended on Friday.

Ms. Sharma received her certificate from the Returning Officer after being declared elected unopposed. The seat fell vacant when the BJP's Krishan Lal Panwar quit his seat following his election as an MLA in the State Assembly polls.

PM to chair conference of Chief Secretaries

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair the fourth National Conference of Chief Secretaries from Saturday.

Organised by the NITI Aayog, the theme of the three-day conference is "Promoting Entrepreneurship, Employment & Skilling – Leveraging the Demographic Dividend". A release from the Prime Minister's Office said the meeting will be another key step towards further boosting the partnership between the Centre and the State governments.

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED
TGSPDCL (erstwhile TSSPDCL)
E-Procurement Tender Notice (Paper Notification)
TGSPDCL intends to float tender for procurement of (I)33KV 1PH PTs 100 VA Burden. (ii) 3-Ph 100KVA DTRs with BIS EE Level-2 (STAR-2) (iii) 220V Batteries and 220V Battery with Charger and DCDB on e-procurement platform.
For further details of each item above, please visit **www.tgsouthernpower.org, www.tender.telangana.gov.in.**
Phone: 040-23431360, 1033, 1035, 1026
Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER (P&MM)
R.O.No.: 786-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25, Date:13.12.2024

RAJASTHAN URJA VIKAS AND IT SERVICES LIMITED
(Formerly Known as Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd.)
(A Government of Rajasthan Undertaking)
Corporate Identity Number (CIN) - U40104RJ2015SGC048738
Regd. Office - Vidyut Bhawan, Janpath, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur-302005
Work Office at: 1st Floor, HUDCO Building, Jyoti nagar, Jaipur- 302005
E-mail:ce.RUVNL@rajasthan.gov.in; Website: www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/RUVNL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
RUVITL on behalf of Rajasthan Discoms invites online bids under the guidelines for long term procurement of power from 3200 MW (4 x 800 MW) coal based thermal power stations set up on Design, Build, Finance, Own and Operate (DBFOO) basis & sourcing fuel allocated to Rajasthan under Para B (iv) of the SHAKTI policy of Ministry of Coal, GoI, for 25 years as per specification under TN-06/RUVITL/FY 2024-25. Tender document is expected to be available for downloading in the last week of this month. Prospective bidders should regularly visit website to keep themselves updated regarding timelines, clarification, amendments etc, if any. May visit website https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ppa/index.jsp https://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/ruvks/#/home/dptHome for further details.
Raj.Samwad/C/24/9050 RUVITL/PR-83 (2024) **Superintending Engineer (PP)**

Wheels India Limited
Regd Office : 21, Patullos Road, Chennai – 600 002
CIN : L35921TN1960PLC004175
Phone : 044-2623 4300; Fax : 044-26257121
Website : www.wheelsindia.com
Invites offers from interested parties for purchase of Mild Steel scrap items, for the two month period JAN - FEB 2025.
Details of the items available for disposal and tender terms and conditions can be had from the Company on written request.
Sealed offers can be submitted to the **Sr. Vice President (Supply Chain),** Wheels India Limited, Padi, Chennai - 600 050 **to reach on or before 30th DECEMBER 2024.**

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
WATER RESOURCES CIRCLE PALI
Notice Inviting Bid (NIB No: SE/WRD/PALI/03/2024-25)
Notice inviting Bid for 04 works for Rs. 1492.29 Lacs in the State of Rajasthan India invited from interested bidders' Date of sale of Bid 17.12.2024 to 16.01.2025 up to 16:00 hours. Date of receiving of Bid 16.01.2025 up to 18:00 hours and Bid will be opened on 17.01.2025 at 15:00 hours. Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the http://sppp.raj.nic.in and http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in of the state; and Water Resources department Rajasthan website.

UBN:	WRD2425WSOB01344
UBN:	WRD2425WSOB01346
UBN:	WRD2425WSOB01347
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Superintending Engineer,
Water Resources Circle Pali
DIPR/C/12942/2024

Court dismisses plea seeking FIR against Kharge for remarks on PM

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court dismissed a plea filed by a Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) member to direct the police to register a first information report (FIR) against Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge. The complaint sought action against Mr. Kharge over comments he had made against Prime Minister Narendra Modi at a rally in Karnataka in April last year.

However, on December 9, judicial magistrate Chatinder Singh took cognisance of the complaint by advocate Ravinder Gupta and recorded his statement.

"The evidence is well within the reach of the complainant and no assistance of police is required to gather the same. The facts of the case are not such that would warrant a detailed and complex investigation to be carried out by the state agency," the court said while dismissing the plea to lodge an FIR against Mr. Kharge.

The court posted the matter for pre-summoning of evidence on March 27, 2025.

Jalgaon City Municipal Corporation, Jalgaon
Sanitation Department
E-Tender Notice No.05/2024-25
Reference Number :- Outward No.JCMC/Sanitation/878/2024-2025 Date. 12/12/2024
Inviting E-tender From Registered Institute or Company/Agency for Work of 1. House to House Collection of Municipal Solid Waste (Dry & Wet Separately) up to Processing Plant Via Secondary Transfer Collection Centre. 2.Supply of 500 Labors for Daily Road Sweeping, Drain Cleaning etc. for 5 years Period at Jalgaon City Municipal Corporation Jalgaon Area. All Information and Details of Tender, Like Tender Form Fee, Tender Cost, EMD, Time Schedule etc available on website www.mahaetenders.gov.in
Sd/-
Commissioner
Jalgaon City Municipal Corporation, Jalgaon

THE NATIONAL SMALL INDUSTRIES CORPORATION
(A Government of India Enterprise)
Corporate Identification No. U74140DL1955GOI002481
RFPs for Selection of Vendors for Supply of Tool Kits for Potter, Barber, Cobbler, Goldsmith & Locksmith trades under PM Vishwakarma Scheme
NSIC invites online bids on GeM Portal against the RFPs for 5 trades named above under PM Vishwakarma Scheme published on GeM on 05.12.2024.
The details of RFPs are available under the web link gem.gov.in and https://nsic.co.in/Tenders/Index may be downloaded from GeM portal.
GeM Bid no. are GEM/2024/B/5664028, GEM/2024/B/5665947, GEM/2024/B/5666394, GEM/2024/B/5666364, GEM/2024/B/5666444
Last date & time for submission of bids is **26.12.2024.**
Pre-Bid Meeting Details may be seen under corrigendum uploaded on portal.
Any further announcement/ corrigendum regarding RFP will be made available on above two web links.

INBRIEF

SC urges Centre, Punjab to reach out to farmer leader

The Supreme Court on Friday urged the Punjab government and the Centre to provide medical help to Punjab farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal, who is on a fast-unto-death protest at Khanauri border for over 17 days, and convince him to end his agitation for his life's sake. "You both look into this issue immediately and ensure that it is resolved," a Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyyan addressed Punjab Advocate-General Gurminder Singh and Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta. The court suggested that Mr. Dallewal may be shifted to PGI Chandigarh or nearby Patiala city for urgent medical intervention, if the need arose.

Delhi HC rejects petition by Bahadur Shah Zafar's 'heir'

The Delhi High Court on Friday rejected the plea by Sultana Begum, widow of late Mirza Mohammed Bedar Bakht, the great-grandson of Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar, seeking possession of the Red Fort on account of being the legal 'heir'. A Bench of Acting Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela dismissed Ms. Begum's appeal against the December 2021 decision of a single judge of the court, noting the challenge was filed after a delay of over two-and-a-half years, which could not be condoned. Ms. Begum said she could not file the appeal owing to her poor health and the death of her daughter.

SC grants bail to ex-Minister, but defers implementation

It defers operation of bail to Partha Chatterjee till Feb. 1 to give trial court time to frame charges and record statements of witnesses in a money laundering case linked to a cash-for-jobs scam

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday took a novel approach by allowing bail to former West Bengal Education Minister Partha Chatterjee in a money laundering case related to a cash-for-jobs scam, but deferring its operation till February 1, 2025, giving the trial court time to frame charges and record the statements of vulnerable witnesses to avoid the prospect of a "failed trial".

The judgment by a Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyyan struck a balance between the settled principle that an undertrial cannot be incarcerated indefinitely, and the need for a speedy and fair trial in which the witnesses give their testimonies without any fear or favour.

The 75-year-old Mr. Chatterjee has been in custody for the past two-and-a-half years since his arrest in 2022.

The court noted that the case concerns allegations of laundering of bribes taken by the Minister from undeserving candidates at the cost of thousands of meritorious aspirants. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) had argued in court that over 50,000 deserving candidates were deprived of their livelihoods because they did not pay bribes. The Bench highlighted that the allegations against the Minister raised concerns about the societal harm caused when the integrity of public institutions come under the lens.

"No More Promise. We Want The Result"
We Want Our Rights Back
STOP Breaking The Spirit of The Society
WE ARE CRYING FOR JUSTICE
WE ARE CRYING. WE NEED JUSTICE

The ED had argued that over 50,000 candidates were deprived of their livelihoods because they did not pay bribes. DEBASISH BHADURI

Charges by year-end

The Bench asked the trial court to decide on the framing of charges in the money laundering case before the commencement of the winter vacation, or at the latest by December 31, 2024. The top court directed the Special Judge to record the statements of vulnerable prosecution witnesses and those who fear threats to their lives, including Mr. Chatterjee's aide Arpita Mukherjee who had allegedly stated that the money recovered from her actually belonged to the former Minister.

The Bench said these statements must be recorded between the second and third weeks of January. In case of delay, the recording of statements must be completed in the third or fourth week.

The court said that Mr. Chatterjee could be released before February 1 if the trial court completes its tasks before schedule.

The Bench ordered Mr. Chatterjee to fully cooperate with the trial court and with the ED's investigation of the money laundering case.

In CBI custody

The judgment assured the former Minister that he would be given the opportunity to challenge the trial court order framing charges in case he is aggrieved by it.

The court said that Mr. Chatterjee must not be appointed to any public office, but would still continue as a Member of the Legislative Assembly. The court clarified that the bail judgment concerned only the ED case, and does not deal with the merits of any cases, including the one registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Mr. Chatterjee is currently in CBI custody in the predicate offence connected to the alleged scam. Additional Solicitor-General S.V. Raju had argued in court that Mr. Chatterjee would not be set at liberty even if he gets bail in the ED case.

Maha Kumbh 2025 is 'maha yagya of unity', says PM in Prayagraj

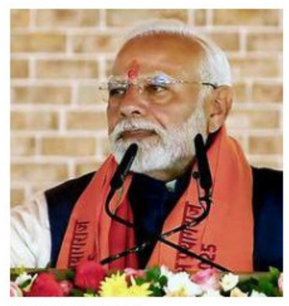
The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

The organisation of Maha Kumbh 2025 in Prayagraj will take India's spiritual and cultural identity to new horizons, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday, describing the event as a "*maha yagya* of unity".

Mr. Modi inaugurated and launched 167 development projects worth about ₹5,500 crore in Prayagraj, ahead of the mega event. He highlighted the event's role in promoting social cohesion as well as the economic empowerment of communities, noting that differences among castes and sects disappear during the Maha Kumbh.

"If I had to describe the Maha Kumbh in one line, I would say that it's a *maha yagya* of unity which will be discussed around the world. It will be one of the largest gatherings in the world where millions of devotees are welcomed daily, with a new chapter of history being written on the land of Prayagraj," Mr. Modi said.

He hailed the contribution of sanitation workers, noting that they play a pivotal role in conducting such a large event. "More than 15,000 sanitation workers will ensure cleanliness during the 2025 Kumbh," he said, recalling his personal experience of washing the feet of sanitation workers in 2019.



Narendra Modi

Chatbot launched

Mr. Modi launched the multilingual Sah'AI'yak' Chatbot, an artificial intelligence-based platform to streamline communication for devotees attending the Maha Kumbh, in 11 Indian languages. The Prime Minister alleged that previous governments had neglected the Kumbh, forcing devotees to suffer difficulties.

"The way different government departments are engaged in the preparations for Maha Kumbh is commendable. Special focus has been given on connectivity here so that there is no problem in reaching Kumbh from any corner of the country or the world," the PM added.

30 people drowned per hour in 2021, says WHO

Zubeda Hamid
GENEVA

The World Health Organization (WHO) published its first-ever global status report on drowning prevention on Friday.

The report, released at an event in Geneva, reveals that three lakh people died by drowning in 2021 around the world (an estimated 30 every hour).

Close to 92% of such deaths took place in low- and middle-income countries, disproportionately affecting the poor and marginalised. The WHO's South-East Asia Region (which includes India) saw 83,000 deaths, or 28% of the global burden.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, via video conference, said the report provided a snapshot of the global burden of drowning. Countries could use the report to raise awareness, guide implementation strategies and track progress on drowning prevention, he said.

Lurking danger: Unmindful of the risk and warning board, people playing in the sea in Visakhapatnam. K.R. DEEPAK

Compiled with the participation of 139 countries – including India – the report found that while drowning deaths declined 38% since 2000, the progress had been uneven and the pace slow. The WHO's European Region, for instance, saw a 68% drop, while the South-East Asia Region saw a decline of 48%.

Children at risk

Primarily at risk are children and young people. Children aged under five accounted for the single largest share of drowning deaths (24%), with a further 19% of deaths among children aged five to 14, and 14% among young people aged 15 to 29.

The report notes that globally, drowning is the fourth leading cause of death for children in the age group of one-four and the third leading cause of death for children aged five to 14.

Even these staggering numbers however, are an underestimate, notes Caroline Lukaszyk, technical officer, WHO, as the report does not capture deaths by drowning owing to natural disasters such as flooding, and those that occur on water transport, primarily due to a lack of accurate data. With vulnerability to flooding increasing due to climate change – and 75% of flooding deaths known to be due to drowning – this is a priority on the drowning prevention agenda, she says.

Training crucial

The report also states that while encouragingly, the WHO's evidence-based drowning prevention interventions are being implemented in many countries, the implementation is to varying degrees. For instance, only 33% of countries offer national programmes to train bystanders in safe rescue and resuscitation, and just 22% integrate swimming and water safety training into their school curriculum. Quality data collection also remains a challenge.

More than 7.2 million people, mainly children, could die due to this "silent killer" by the year 2050 if current trends continue. Yet almost all drowning deaths are preventable, the report states, highlighting that political will and investment in drowning prevention are critical to save lives. Providing day care for pre-school children and teaching school students basic swimming skills could help protect millions of lives, it says.

Developed in response to a member-state request made through a World Health Assembly Resolution 76.18 (2023) and funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies, the report underscores that drowning is a complex health issue that requires the involvement of multiple sectors to address the broad range of risk factors. Legislation, even when it exists, is often out of step with the scale of the challenge, it says.

Former principal, ex-police officer get bail in R.G. Kar case

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

A court in Kolkata on Friday granted bail to Sandip Ghosh, former principal of R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, and Abhijit Mondal, former officer-in-charge of Tala police station, in the case of rape and murder of a trainee doctor at the State-run health facility on August 9.

The court at Sealdah, where trial in the rape and murder case is going on, granted bail to the two accused, arrested on allegations of tampering evidence, as the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had failed to file a chargesheet against them 90 days after their arrest.

The Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sealdah, granted bail to both accused on a surety bond of ₹2,000 each and on the condition that the accused would have to appear before the CBI whenever they are called by the Central agency.

CBI inefficiency

The grant of bail created strong reactions in the political and social circles. The parents of the deceased doctor raised questions on the "professional efficiency" of the CBI. "They got bail because the CBI could not do its work properly," the mother of the victim said.

The West Bengal Junior Doctors Front also reacted to the developments and said that the sentiments of the people who had participated in the protests against the gruesome rape and murder had not been honoured either by the State government, the Union government, or the CBI.

SPG moves SC against order on vehicle registration

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Special Protection Group (SPG), an elite force which protects the Prime Minister, approached the Supreme Court on Friday against a National Green Tribunal (NGT) order refusing to extend the period of registration of three specialised armoured vehicles by another five years.

The NGT had refused to grant relief to the SPG in its March 22 order, noting that there was a prohibition on plying diesel vehicles that had completed 10 years.

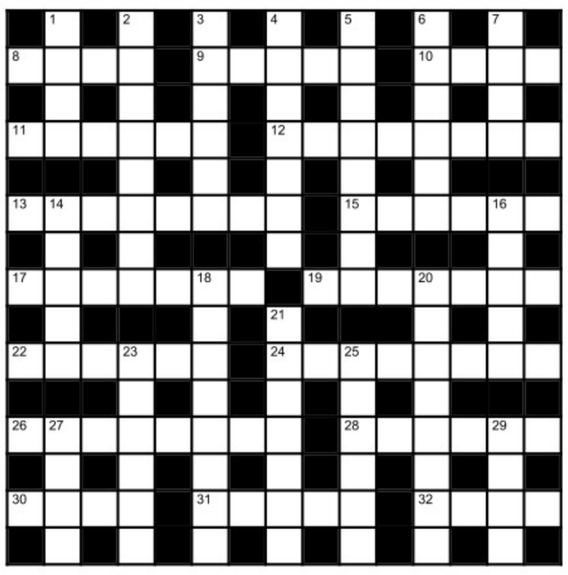
The NGT's order had said that they are conscious of the fact that these are special purpose vehicles, needed for the security of the Prime Minister, but "in view of the order of the Supreme Court dated October 29, 2018, the prayer cannot be granted".

TH CROSSWORD + 14356

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Brand symbol's record? Nothing! (4)
9 Very vulgar 12 dozen (5)
10 Bachelor's pain (4)
11 Crib: Wrongly cared about student (6)
12 Increased depth from enclosure for holding animals, indeed (8)
13 Confuse insect to go round feral rodent at first (8)
15 Game for vegetable juice (6)
17 Pretty girls have a right to make money (7)
19 It can be found online and is made up of wee bits (7)
22 Push student's digging implement (6)
24 Giving answer: "Call about European layer" (8)
26 Husband always takes left in corridors (8)
28 See! Wrong hate results in hate... (6)
30 Only auditor's soul (4)
31 Ladies get direction for levels (5)
32 Pacific California male (4)

Down

1 Heavenly maiden loses one unit of time (4)
2 Go to get overdraft with legal document... It's a value of established reputation (8)
3 Concurred, it's a vice (6)
4 Does what is necessary, perhaps, to repair old engine first before commencement of restoration in ship (7)
5 Perhaps, taxpayer gets directions with notice pinned to donkey's tail (8)
6 Behind entrance, lies gold and cake (6)
7 Long ago, you three expelled ring leader (4)
14 Eastern chop-chop time (5)
16 Devil took seat with a bridge player (5)
18 Freed and let out again (8)
20 Uses a coy arrangement to make a condiment (3,5)
21 Boy hurries to get implements for cleaning (7)
23 Spread salve around centre of gravity of control devices (6)
25 North European language used for getting good finish (6)
27 Over a plaything? (4)
29 Condition of whales' hearts? (4)

SUDOKU

		4			8		7	
9	1							5
				4		3		
4			8		5	1	9	
1	3						6	2
	5	9	2		1			4
		6		1				
5							1	7
	9		5			6		

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

No.SS6369 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	9	8	5	7	2	3	1	4
2	7	4	8	3	1	6	5	9
5	1	3	6	9	4	7	2	8
1	8	6	3	4	5	9	7	2
9	3	7	2	8	6	5	4	1
4	5	2	9	1	7	8	6	3
8	6	5	1	2	3	4	9	7
3	4	1	7	6	9	2	8	5
7	2	9	4	5	8	1	3	6

FAITH

Pursue goals like Hanuman

Overcoming sensory pleasures and achieving mastery over one's mind are the success formulae for completing set tasks and reaching God. Hanuman shows one the way to control one's wayward mind, meet goals and find a place close to God, said Damal S. Ramakrishnan in a discourse.

When tasked with flying south in search of Sita abducted by Ravana, Hanuman resolved to accomplish his task like Rama's arrow, that great weapon which does not halt anywhere until it reaches its target.

To this end, Hanuman, endowed with both formidable strength and a powerful mind, prepared himself physically. Bringing his palms together in obeisance to the Sun God and the Wind God, he grew rapidly in size, on top of a mountain, watched in astonishment by the other apes. He then pressed his hands and feet on the ground, in readiness for take-off. As he rose into the sky, many trees shot up into the sky, filled with other apes, all of whom followed him for a while, like hosts seeing off a guest, as ordained in the sastras.

As Hanuman progressed, the sea decided to honour Hanuman, as he was on an errand for Rama of Ishvaku clan, the sea's patron. The Sea God commanded Mainaka, the great underwater mountain, to rise up and offer a place of rest for Hanuman. The great ape, however, mistook Mainaka for a hindrance sent by Ravana and slapped him aside. When Mainaka explained its purpose, Hanuman, thanking it for its hospitality, said, "The work I do does not brook any delay. Also, I made a vow that I would not stop on the way." Hanuman's single-minded purpose is worthy of emulation.

INBRIEF

SpiceJet 'clears' ₹160-crore pending provident fund dues

SpiceJet said it has cleared all employees' provident fund (EPF) dues worth ₹160.07 crore pending for over two years. The low-cost carrier, which had been facing multiple headwinds, recently raised ₹3,000 crore, following which it had been clearing statutory Goods and Services Tax, and other dues. According to a release, since October, SpiceJet had been utilising internal cash flows to meet statutory obligations, including EPF and taxes deducted at source.

Ashok Leyland to hike CV prices by up to 3% from Jan. 1

Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL) announced a price rise of up to 3% on its range of commercial vehicles (CVs) with effect January on account of inflation and increase in commodity prices. The extent of price hike will vary depending on model and variant, however all products across the range will be affected, the company said in a filing. This will help mitigate a part of the input cost impact, the firm said. In another filing, ALL said it has bagged a ₹346-crore order from the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation for the supply of 1,475 BS-VI diesel passenger bus chassis.

Vishal Mega Mart IPO subscribed 27 times

Vishal Mega Mart's ₹8,000-crore Initial Public Offering (IPO) was subscribed 27.3 times on the last day of bidding on Friday. The IPO's total issue size was more than 75 crore shares. The Qualified Institutional Buyers' portion received 80.75 times subscription, while the quota for non-institutional investors was subscribed 14.25 times. Retail investors' category fetched 2.31 times subscription. Vishal Mega Mart's IPO was the fourth largest this year, after Hyundai Motors' ₹27,855 crore share sale, Swiggy's ₹11,327 crore IPO and NTPC Green's 10,000 crore offering.

Swiss Shock: EFTA member lobs back India's MFN tax volley

From Jan. 1, Indian entities in Switzerland face higher tax liabilities as country responds to Supreme Court ruling that voided tax treaty benefit

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

In a development that could hurt India's investment climate and affect firms' international taxation math, Switzerland has decided to suspend the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment for India under the two countries' 30-years old double-taxation avoidance agreement (DTAA), citing an October 2023 ruling against its validity by the Supreme Court on 11 petitions that were combined with a Nestle plea.

A statement by Swiss authorities dated December 11, said the MFN clause under the DTAA will no longer hold from January 1, 2025, considering that India's apex court had said it does not get automatically triggered until notified under the Income Tax Act.

"On the basis of the Indian Supreme Court ruling, the Swiss competent authority acknowledges that its interpretation of para. 5 of the Protocol to the IN-CH DTA is not shared by the Indian side. In the absence of reciprocity, it therefore waives its unilateral application with effect from 1 January, 2025," a Swiss government communiqué stated.

Terming this as a significant shift in bilateral treaty dynamics, Nangia Andersen's tax partner Sandeep Jhunjhunwala said this would mean increased tax liabilities for Indian entities operating in Switzerland and increases the complexities of navigating international tax treaties in an evolving landscape.

"Previously, Indian companies benefited from a reduced tax rate of 5% on dividends and other incomes, thanks to Switzerland's earlier application of MFN benefits. With the reversion to a 10% residual rate starting January 1, these firms face higher tax liabilities, reducing their competitiveness compared to businesses from countries still benefiting from MFN provisions," reckoned Ajay Srivastava, director of the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI).

"Beyond its immediate fiscal impact, this development reflects broader trends in international taxation, with countries like India increasingly asserting stricter interpretations of treaty provisions to protect domestic tax revenues," Mr. Jhunjhunwala noted, adding this underscores the need to align treaty partners on the interpretation and application of tax treaty clauses to ensure predictability, equity, and stability in international tax framework.

Sameer Gupta, national tax leader at EY India, indicated that all may not be lost in this bilateral economic tangle. "As per the Court's decision, the MFN clause will only take effect once both countries issue notifications... once India provides the required notification, Switzerland can reactivate the treaty provision," he averred.

Mr. Srivastava, however, warned that this suspension not only brings tax challenges for Indian firms in sectors like financial services, pharmaceuticals, and IT, that have operations in Switzerland, but also introduces frictions with other trade and investment partners over the MFN clause interpretations that could hurt inbound and outbound investment flows. If disputes over reading MFN clauses persist, Indian businesses could face similar hurdles in other jurisdictions as well, he said.

"Proactive negotiations to clarify and harmonize interpretations of treaty provisions are essential to safeguard Indian firms' interests abroad. Additionally, India must ensure that its treaty frameworks reflect contemporary business realities, particularly in the digital and service sectors, to reduce tax uncertainties and promote global competitiveness," Mr. Srivastava underlined.

Winter chill: Fitch, CareEdge trim India's GDP growth hopes

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

Fitch Ratings on Friday sharply slashed its 2024-25 GDP growth forecast for India from 7.2% to 6.4%, but doesn't expect the recent slowdown in the economy to become 'a prolonged slump'. However, the global rating firm said it expects growth to improve only marginally to 6.5% in 2025-26.

CareEdge Ratings also pared its GDP growth forecast for the year to 6.5% from an earlier projection of 6.8%. This downward adjustment reflects the slower GDP growth of 5.4% in the July-September quarter that was also marked by a deeper contraction in corporate profitability, said the firm's chief economist Rajani Sinha. She also pointed to the decline in public capex in the first half of the fiscal and the softness in some urban demand indicators.

'Temporary slowdown'

While the first half of the year has now clocked a GDP growth of 6%, CareEdge believes the slowdown is temporary, and the second half will see a 6.8% uptick. "The GDP growth is likely to pick up as the government increases its capex spending, while healthy agricultural production should further bolster rural consumption," Ms. Sinha reckoned.

"Although indicators point to a more mixed picture in recent months, we do not think the softness will translate into a prolonged slump in economic activity. We expect domestic demand to continue driving economic growth amid a potential trade war between the U.S. and China and a global trade slowdown," Fitch said in a commentary note on asset-backed securities linked to automobile loans.

Citing the above-normal south-west monsoon rains, Fitch economists said the farm sector will be supported by robust summer crop sowing, which bodes well for a more robust harvest. "Better monsoon rains also limit inflationary risks from food price rises and increase rural purchasing power," it averred.

This Wednesday, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) also moderated its forecast for India's growth to 6.5% from 7%, citing, among other factors, 'lower-than-expected growth in private investment and housing demand'.

Last week, the Reserve Bank of India, which had projected a 7% growth in the second quarter at its October monetary policy review, had downgraded its full-year growth forecast of 7.2% to 6.6%. ADB, Fitch Ratings and CareEdge Ratings expect growth to slip below the RBI's forecast.

While Fitch is sanguine about the performance of its rated asset-backed securities linked to auto loans, it said major risks "are likely to come from ongoing geopolitical tensions and oil price volatility, given the cyclical nature of the assets.

"Performance may deteriorate materially if India's economic slowdown accelerates beyond our forecast or if there is a rapid rise in fuel prices following a geopolitical event," it warned.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	82,133	1.04
US Dollar	84.80	0.09
Gold	79,500	-1.73
Brent oil	74.28	2.07

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2527.55	23.45
Adani Ports	1259.95	15.95
Apollo Hosp	7259.45	32.35
Asian Paints	2407.65	18.10
Axis Bank	1148.15	2.50
Bajaj Auto	9021.40	58.15
Bajaj Finserv	1679.70	0.40
Bajaj Finance	7182.80	57.00
Bharat Elec	315.65	2.70
Bharti Airtel	1681.75	71.20
BPCL	301.70	-0.45
Britannia Ind	4850.10	21.75
Cipla	1447.30	1.90
Coal India	410.30	1.20
Dr Reddys Lab	1246.35	0.95
Eicher Motors	4825.90	18.25
Grasim Ind	2692.70	32.65
HCL Tech	1968.80	32.60
HDFC Bank	1871.75	12.50
HDFC Life	632.55	6.00
Hero MotoCorp	4575.45	18.70
Hindalco	662.10	-6.60
Hind Unilever	2390.10	45.15
ICICI Bank	1344.90	15.65
IndusInd Bank	986.65	-11.30
Infosys	1999.70	12.70
ITC	470.00	9.40
JSW Steel	999.85	-5.95
Kotak Bank	1805.65	36.95
L&T	3887.00	27.10
M&M	3081.40	13.95
Maruti Suzuki	11272.55	105.15
NestleIndia	2253.50	29.45
NTPC	357.15	1.55
ONGC	254.25	0.20
PowerGrid Corp	333.85	4.65
Reliance Ind	1272.85	9.95
SBI Life	1428.80	-3.70
State Bank	861.55	7.85
Shriram Finance Ltd.	3162.55	-85.55
Sun Pharma	1813.45	8.00
TataConsumerProduct	929.70	8.45
Tata Motors	790.30	3.95
Tata Steel	148.95	-1.83
TCS	4473.90	18.95
Tech Mahindra	1796.40	6.80
Titan	3508.85	63.10
Trent Ltd.	7000.25	-12.25
UltraTech Cement	12083.90	226.95
Wipro	309.95	0.85

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on December 13

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	84.59	84.91
Euro	88.70	89.03
British Pound	106.96	107.38
Japanese Yen (100)	55.12	55.34
Chinese Yuan	11.63	11.67
Swiss Franc	94.61	94.98
Singapore Dollar	62.73	62.98
Canadian Dollar	59.47	59.70
Malaysian Ringitt	19.00	19.09
Australian Dollar	53.89	54.10

Source:Indian Bank

Centre consistently hiked capex: FinMin

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Pankaj Chaudhary

The government has consistently increased its expenditure on infrastructure building over the last five years and aims to achieve the ₹11.11 lakh crore capex target set for the current fiscal, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said on Friday.

The government's capital expenditure increased from more than ₹5 lakh crore in 2021-22 to ₹11.11 lakh crore in 2024-25.

"India's road, air and rail connectivity has improved considerably over the last 10 years," Mr. Chaudhary told reporters.

Keeping in mind the goal set by PM Narendra Modi to make India a developed nation by 2047, the government will continue to make allocations in Budget for 2025-26, he said.

SEBI mulls retail investor participation in algo trading

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Capital markets regulator SEBI proposed facilitating the participation of retail investors in algorithmic trading (algo trading), which provides advantages of faster order execution and improved liquidity.

The proposal, if implemented, is expected to fill the void for retail investors who want to trade using algos with safeguards.

SEBI has sought public comments on the proposals till January 3.

Now, CCI raps table tennis body's unfair practices

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Fair trade watchdog Competition Commission of India (CCI) has directed the Table Tennis Federation of India (TFFI) and its affiliate bodies to cease and desist from indulging in anti-competitive practices.

The "cease and desist" order has been passed against TFFI, The Suburban Table Tennis Association (TSTTA), Maharashtra State Table Tennis Association (MSTTA), Gujarat State Table Tennis Association (GSTTA) and Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) on December 12 for abuse of dominance and anti-competitive agreements.

Added sugar in Nestle baby products complies with regulations: Nadda

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

J.P. Nadda

Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda told the Lok Sabha on Friday that the added sugar in Nestle baby products was in compliance with Indian and global standards as per the Food Safety and Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2020.

Responding to a question, the Minister said the limits specified for sugars in infant food products in the regulations was on a par with the global standards, namely Codex Alimentarius Commission, which considered the recommendation of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in order to prescribe food standards.

Earlier, based on media reports, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India or the FSSAI, had taken *suo motu* cognisance of a report by a Swiss NGO referring to sugar being added in wheat-based baby products.

Karnataka Food & Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd.
(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.16/I, Millers Tank Bed Area, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru-560 052.
Ph.: 080-22096650, 22096654
No.: KFCSC/PRO/MSP/TPA/08/2024-25 Date: 12.12.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Karnataka Food and Civil Supplies Corporation limited invites Tender No.: KFCSCL/2024-25/SE0077 regarding **appointing Third Party Quality Assayer for quality Certification of Paddy, Ragi and White Jowar being procured from farmers as per Government Order under Minimum Support Price for the KMS 2024-25.** For further information visit website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Managing Director

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
Head Office : Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14,
(Telephone No. 0471-2945600, 2945646
E-mail : edrugs.kmscl@kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616
No.KMSCL/ED/RD-IMIGLUCERASE/133/2024 Date: 13.12.2024

E- TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited for the procurement of Drug for Rare Diseases for Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Kerala vide e-tender no KMSCL/ED/RD-SAT-2/RC/2024/029 dated 13.12.2024

Sl. No.	Name of Item	Qty.	Last Date & time of Uploading of tender	Date & time of Technical Bid opening
1.	IMIGLUCERASE FOR INJ. (400 units vial)	200	24.12.24 5.00 pm.	28.12.2024 11.00 am.

Tender documents can be downloaded from the website **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**.

(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (Tender Inviting Authority)

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South Zone),
9th Cross, 9th Main, Jayanagara, 2nd Block, Bengaluru -11
No: SADH(S)TENDER/23/2024-25 Dated: 13.12.2024

LETTER OF INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System) **(STD KW-3)**

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only) The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South), (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites Tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department for Maintenance of Parks.

Sl No.	Name of the work
1.	Beautification, Landscape Development, Water Facility and other Civil Works in Vijayanagara Assembly Constituency Parks. **Amount put to tender (excluding GST): ₹.1,32,55,332/- EMD: ₹.2,00,000/-**

Calendar of Events: (1) Date of Notification is **13.12.2024. (2)** Tender can be downloaded from **17.12.2024. (3)** Pre bid meeting on **21.12.2024** at **4:00** pm. **(4)** Tender Closing date **25.12.2024** at **4:00** pm. **(5)** Technical bid opening date is **26.12.2024** at **4:30** pm. **(6)** Financially Bid Opening Date After approval of Technical bid.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South Zone)

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
Head Office : Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14,
(Telephone No. 0471-2945600,),
E-mail : edrugs.kmscl@kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616
No.KMSCL/ED/100/2024 Date : 13.12.2024

E-TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited from manufacturers/direct importers / loan licensees on behalf of Department of Health, Govt of Kerala for the procurement of Drugs for Thalassemia Management for the year 2024 - 2025.

Sl. No.	Tender No. and Date	No. Drugs
1.	KMSCL/ED/THALASSEMIA DRUGS/RC/2024/028 dtd. 13/12/2024	05

Last date and time of online uploading of tender - 26.12.2024, 5.00 pm.
Date and time of opening of Technical bid - 30.12.2024 11.30 am.

Tenders shall be downloaded and submitted online through the e-tender portal **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**.

(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (Tender Inviting Authority)

ए वी एन एल शिक्षण संस्थान आवडी
आर्मर्ड व्हीकल्स निगम लिमिटेड की इकाई
भारत सरकार का उद्यम
रक्षा मंत्रालय

AVNL INSTITUTE OF LEARNING AVADI
UNIT OF ARMOURED VEHICLES NIGAM LIMITED
A GOVT. OF INDIA ENTERPRISE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
CIN-U35990TN2021GOI145504

ENGAGEMENT OF PERSONNEL UNDER FIXED TERM CONTRACT
(Advt. No. IOLAV/FTC/RECT/2024/03)
CORRIGENDUM TO ADVT NO. IOLAV/FTC/RECT/2024/02

Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVANI) (AVNL) is a new Defence PSU with its headquarters at Avadi (Chennai). It has five (05) constituent production units. AVNL produces battle tanks i.e. T-72, T-90, MBT Arjun and Infantry Combat Vehicles, support vehicles (MPV, AERV etc.) and Defence mobility solutions (Stallion, LPTA etc.) for the armed forces and homeland security agencies. It is the current market leader in this segment. It is a new Government Company with Great Future. It offers great work environment and challenging opportunities for the professionals to prove their mettle.

AVNL invites offline Applications from Indian Citizens fulfilling the eligibility requirements, for filling up of the following Fixed Term Based posts on CONTRACT BASIS to work in AVNL Institute of Learning, Avadi, Chennai-54, a training institute for AVNL employees and others.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Vacancies	Minimum Basic Pay (Per Month)	Nature of Appointment
1	Young Professionals (HR Generalist)	04 (UR-03, OBC-01)	Rs. 40,000/-	Engagement on Full Time on Fixed Term Contract Basis.

The last date of receipt of application will be **21 Days** from the date of publication of this advertisement in employment newspaper. For further information please visit our AVNL website **www.avnl.co.in** for detailed advertisement.

Note:

a) Those candidates who had applied against the earlier advertisement [Advt No. IOLAV/FTC/RECT/2024/02] nee not apply afresh.

b) Any corrigendum / amendment in this advertisement will be published / uploaded on **AVNL Website ONLY**.

HR Division, IOLAV Unit of AVNL
Chennai
Email: iolavd@avnl.co.in
Dated: 14-12-2024
Tele: 044-26843367

LOS ANGELES

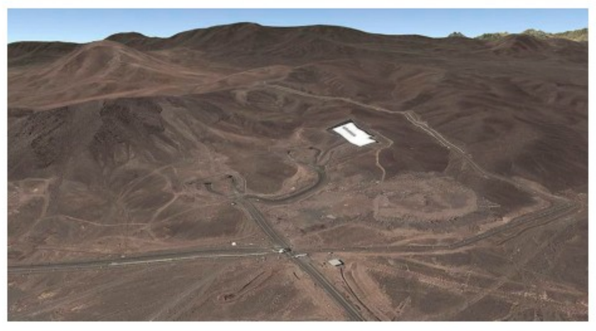
U.S. charges former head of Syrian prison with torturing detainees

REUTERS

Samir Ousman Alsheikh, former head of Syria's Adra Prison, was charged in the U.S. on Thursday with torture and conspiracy for allegedly abusing detainees from 2005 to 2008. The charges follow his immigration fraud arrest, highlighting ongoing accountability efforts for rights violations under Bashar al-Assad's regime. AFP

VIENNA

Iran agrees to more monitoring at Fordo enrichment plant, says IAEA



Iran has agreed to increased monitoring by the UN nuclear watchdog at its Fordo enrichment plant, following its plans to ramp up production of highly enriched uranium at the site, the IAEA said on Friday. Iran insists on its right to nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and has denied it is seeking a weapons capability. AFP

WASHINGTON

Ex-Speaker Pelosi hospitalised after injury during Europe trip

AP

Former U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi was injured on a trip to Luxembourg and has been admitted to a hospital for evaluation, her office said on Friday. Ms. Pelosi, 84, was the first woman to serve as Speaker of the House and had also been a long-time leader of the House Democratic Caucus. REUTERS

GENEVA

Topless anti-Russia protesters damage monument outside UN

REUTERS

Topless members of the Ukrainian feminist group Femen vandalised the Broken Chair monument outside the UN in Geneva using chainsaws, protesting Russia's actions in Ukraine. The incident, which left significant damage on the sculpture, led to police intervention and the questioning of four individuals. REUTERS

Kremlin praises Trump, pounds Ukraine in massive aerial attack

Moscow said the attack was in retaliation for the use of ATACMS missiles; Trump said Kyiv's use of U.S. weapons to strike deep into Russia was a 'foolish' idea; Zelenskyy called for more Western air defence systems to protect Ukraine's territory

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

The Kremlin said on Friday that U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's opposition to Ukraine's use of U.S. weapons to hit Russia "fully aligned" with Moscow's position, hours after it launched a massive aerial barrage on Ukraine.

The nearly three-year conflict is escalating ahead of Mr. Trump coming to power in January, with both sides seeking to gain an upper hand on the battlefield amid mounting speculation of ceasefire talks.

Russia launched one of its largest missile attacks ever in the early hours of Friday, targeting Ukraine's energy grid as temperatures dropped below freezing, in what Moscow called a retaliatory strike for Kyiv firing U.S. weapons on a southern Russian airfield earlier this week.

Critical strike: Burning buildings after a massive Russian drone attack in Ukraine's Chernihiv region on Friday. AP

The Kremlin had warned it would respond to Kyiv's use of ATACMS missiles and then praised Mr. Trump, who said using the weapons to hit deep into Russia was a "foolish" idea.

"The statement fully aligns with our position, with our view on the reasons for escalation," Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

"That impresses us. It is obvious that Mr. Trump understands exactly what is escalating the situation."

Moscow has repeatedly raged against Western arms supplied to Ukraine and said the use of Western weapons makes NATO countries direct participants in the nearly three-year conflict.

"In response to the use of American long-range weapons, a massive strike was carried out by the Russian armed forces... against critical facilities of Ukraine's fuel and energy infrastructure," Russia's Defence Ministry said in a post on Telegram.

The attack "severely damaged" some Ukrainian power plants, the DTEK power provider said, and knocked out electricity to thousands of people.

Russia fired 94 missiles in the barrage – including cruise and ballistic missiles – and almost 200 drones, according to Ukraine's Air Force. It claimed to have shot down 81 of the missiles.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the attack showed Moscow had no interest in peace.

He called for more Western air defence systems to protect Ukraine's skies and harsher sanctions on Moscow, to limit its ability to wage war.

Macron chooses centrist ally Bayrou as France's PM

Associated Press
PARIS

French President Emmanuel Macron on Friday named centrist ally François Bayrou as Prime Minister in an effort to address the country's deep political crisis, after a historic parliamentary vote ousted the previous government last week.

Mr. Bayrou, 73, a crucial partner in Mr. Macron's centrist alliance, has been a well-known figure in French politics for decades. His political experience is seen as key in efforts to restore stability as no single party holds a majority at the National Assembly.

Mr. Macron's office said in a statement that Mr. Bayrou "has been charged with forming a new government".

François Bayrou

Former Prime Minister Michel Barnier resigned last week following a no-confidence vote prompted by Budget disputes in the National Assembly, leaving France without a functioning government. Mr. Macron in an address to the nation vowed to remain in office until his term ends in 2027.

Mr. Bayrou is expected to hold talks with political leaders from various parties in the coming days in order to choose new Ministers.

The task appears challenging because Mr. Macron's centrist alliance does not have a majority in Parliament and Mr. Bayrou's Cabinet will need to rely on moderate lawmakers from both the left and right to be able to stay in power.

Some conservatives are expected to be part of the new government.

Mr. Macron's strategy aims at preventing far-right leader Marine Le Pen from holding "make or break" power over the government. Ms. Le Pen helped oust Mr. Barnier by joining her National Rally party's forces to the left to pass the no-confidence motion last week.

National Rally officials, including Ms. Le Pen, have said they want any new Budget law to preserve the purchasing power of the French people.

'Imperative' to work against IS in Syria, Blinken tells Turkiye

Agence France-Presse
ANKARA

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Friday told Turkiye it was "imperative" to work against a resurgence of the Islamic State (IS) group in Syria following the fall of Bashar al-Assad.

The top U.S. diplomat also said he saw "encouraging signs" on reaching a ceasefire in the war-torn Gaza Strip.

His remarks came on the second leg of a whirlwind regional tour following Bashar al-Assad's ouster in a lightning offensive spearheaded by Islamist-led HTS rebels.

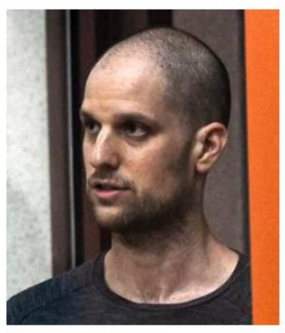
He flew to Turkiye on Thursday evening where he met for more than an hour with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan at Ankara airport. In response, Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan told Mr. Blinken Turkiye was committed to ensuring stability in Syria "as soon as possible".

Freed U.S. journalist reveals details of shadowy Russian agency behind arrest

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. journalist Evan Gershkovich, detained by Russia last year before being exchanged in a prisoner swap, has revealed details about the agency allegedly responsible for his detention.

His first article for the *Wall Street Journal* since his 16-month detention scrutinised the little-known Department for Counter-intelligence Operations, which he reported is behind "the biggest wave of repression" in the country since the time of Joseph Stalin.



Evan Gershkovich

Known as the DKRO, it is responsible for the detention of Mr. Gershkovich and other Westerners as part of an operation that has grown dramatically over recent years, according to the report published on Thursday by Mr. Gershkovich and three colleagues.

After being tasked with securing the release of Russian hit man Vadim Krasikov, jailed in Germany, the DKRO "accelerated a campaign of arresting American citizens," including Mr. Gershkovich, to use as "bait".

Mr. Gershkovich was arrested on espionage charges during a reporting trip in March 2023, and held until a large East-West prisoner swap in August of this year.

The article said the shadowy DKRO was a key player in growing Russian repression domestically and is also involved in foreign interference.

The agency is allegedly headed by Lieutenant General Dmitry Minaev, who Mr. Gershkovich said "has a hands-on role in selecting which Americans to arrest, and which Russians to trade them for".

Israel orders troops to 'prepare to remain' in Syria buffer zone

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz has ordered the military to "prepare to remain" throughout the winter in the UN-patrolled buffer zone that is supposed to separate Israeli and Syrian forces on the Golan Heights.

Israel seized the demilitarised zone on the strategic plateau on Sunday, just hours after Syrian rebels swept President Bashar al-Assad from power.

Since then, the Israeli military has launched hundreds of air and naval strikes against Syrian military assets, targeting everything from chemical weapons stores to air defences to prevent them from falling into rebel hands. The plan to deploy troops in the buffer zone comes at a time when Israeli forces are still withdrawing from southern Lebanon after fighting Hezbollah militants.

Sport

Ranquelino claims the Bangalore 2000 Guineas

BENGALURU: Darius Byramji-trained Ranquelino (Sandesh up) won the Bangalore 2000 Guineas (1,600m), the chief event of the races here on Friday (Dec 13). The winner is owned by Manjri Horse Breed Farm Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Mukul A. Sonawala, Mr. Kishore M. Dingra, M/s. DT Racing & Breeding LLP, Mr. S.R. Sanas & Mr. Ashok Ranpise.

Sandesh confidently kept his gelding in handy fourth or fifth position till the bend before manoeuvring the mount from the outside in the home stretch. Ranquelino responded well to the reminders, overtook the leader Mandarino near the 100m, and won comfortably.

THE RESULTS:

1. ALYDAR PLATE (1,100M): LENA (Ashhad Asbar) 1, Eleanora (Yash) 2, Coldplay (Antony) 3 and Higgs Boson (M. Rajesh K) 4. 3/4, 2 and 5-1/4. 1m, 09.32s. ₹153 (w), 33 and 19 (p), SHP: 24, THP: 66, FP: 791, Q: 212, Trinella: 877/271, Exacta: 44,608. Favourite: Coldplay. Owner: Mr. P. Arun Kumar. Trainer: Pradeep Annaiah.

2. TUNGABHADRA PLATE (1,200M): MEGA SUCCESS (Jagadeesh) 1, Infinite Spirit (Likith Appu) 2, Star Comet (Rayan) 3 and The Golden Dream (R. Pradeep) 4. 1/2, 1-1/2 and 1-3/4. 1m, 16.33s. ₹45 (w), 16, 31 and 18 (p), SHP: 126, THP: 38, FP: 412, Q: 308, Trinella: 2,419/740, Exacta: 5,044/1,681. Favourite: The Golden Dream. Owner and trainer: Mr. S. Inayathulla.

Champion outfit: Owners S.R. Sanas, Siddarath, Dilip Thacker, Ashok Ranpise, and trainer Darius Byramji leading in Ranquelino (A. Sandesh up) after the win in the Bangalore 2000 Guineas on Friday.
K. MURALI KUMAR

3. TETRARCH PLATE (DIV. II), (1,100M): DAYS DATE (Arvind K) 1, Sling Shot (Likith Appu) 2, Domina (Srinath) 3 and Martha (Akshay K) 4. Lnk, 1-1/4 and Nk. 1m, 09.52s. ₹50 (w), 13, 28 and 18 (p), SHP: 90, THP: 39, FP: 675, Q: 479, Trinella: 2,745/784, Exacta: 1,825/730. Favourite: Martha. Owner: Mr. S. Pathy. Trainer: Irfan Ghatala.

4. B.B.M.P. CUP (DIV. I), (1,200M): STELLANTIS (Trevor) 1, Knotty Patton (Jagadeesh) 2, Free To Play (Arvind K) 3 and IL Volo (Angad) 4. 1/2, 1-3/4 and 1-1/4. 1m, 15.80s. ₹16 (w), 10, 23 and 20 (p), SHP: 63, THP: 47, FP: 103, Q: 65, Trinella: 361/183, Exacta: 5,096/1,985. Favourite: Stellantis. Owners: Mr. Rama Seshu Eyunni, Mr. Marthand Singh Mahindra & Mrs. Rina Mahindra. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.

5. BANGALORE 2000 GUINEAS (1,600M): RANQUELINO (FIERO-SUNSET) SANDESH 1, Mandarino (Moonlight Magic-Mandara) L.A. Rozario 2, Positano (Arod-Satinette) Akshay K 3 and Don Carlos (Cougar Mountain-Renee) Trevor 4. 1-1/2, Hd and 1-1/4. 1m, 39.49s. ₹36 (w), 13, 18 and 13 (p), SHP: 62, THP: 54, FP: 372, Q: 215, Trinella: 762/188, Exacta: 8,408/4,204. Favourite: Positano. Owners: Manjri Horse Breed Farm Pvt Ltd, Mr. Mukul A. Sonawala, Mr. Kishore M. Dingra, M/s. DT Racing & Breeding LLP, Mr. S.R. Sanas & Mr. Ashok Ranpise. Trainer: Darius Byramji.

6. TETRARCH PLATE (DIV. I), (1,100M): REIKO (Sandesh) 1, Lockheed (Srinath) 2, Breeze Bluster (Shreyas S) 3 and Invincible (M. Rajesh K) 4. 1-3/4, 1-1/4 and 1-1/4. 1m, 09.61s. ₹19 (w), 11, 13 and 25 (p), SHP: 29, THP: 58, FP: 53, Q: 30, Trinella: 310/237, Exacta: 5,026/4,308. Favourite: Reiko. Owner: Mr. P. Arun Kumar. Trainer: Prasanna Kumar.

7. B.B.M.P. CUP (DIV. II), (1,200M): BHARAT (G. Vivek) 1, Eastern Gold (Akshay K) 2, Instructor (R. Pradeep) 3 and Tesorino (Trevor) 4. 3-1/4, 2 and 1-3/4. 1m, 14.77s. ₹39 (w), 13, 12 and 19 (p), SHP: 36, THP: 44, FP: 79, Q: 29, Trinella: 256/166, Exacta: 487/190. Favourite: Eastern Gold. Owners: M/s. Rapar Galloping Stars LLP rep. by Mr. Rajendran, Mr. Ronak J Kimmane & Mr. Ananth Iyengar. Trainer: Prasanna Kumar.

Jackpot: ₹4,789 (54 tkts.); runner-up: 290 (382 tkts.); treble (i): 315 (24 tkts.); (ii): 668 (38 tkts.).

Count Basie primed to deliver in Managing Committee Trophy

BENGALURU: Count Basie, who has been well prepared is expected to score in the Managing Committee Trophy (1,800m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Saturday (Dec 14). There will be no false rails.

1 LONGCHAMP PLATE (1,200m), maiden 2-y-o only, (Terms), 2-00 p.m.: 1. Agrador (2) Antony 56, 2. Multi Success (1) Darshan 56, 3. Resplendence (3) Vinod Shinde 56, 4. Hackathon (7) Kiran Rai 54.5, 5. Ice Of Fire (4) Sandesh 54.5, 6. Mutual Trust (6) Akshay K 54.5 and 7. Star Serenade (5) Suraj 54.5.

1. MUTUAL TRUST,
2. STAR SERENADE

2 VALLEY OF FLOWERS PLATE (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 2-30: 1. Lex Luthor (2) Vinod Shinde 61, 2. Sea Blush (7) Srinath 60.5, 3. Promiseofthefuture (4) Suraj 59, 4. Pericles (6) Akshay K 58.5, 5. Continues (1) A. Ramu 55.5, 6. Torobravo (5) B.R. Kumar 55, 7. Royal Whisper (8) Shreyas S 53.5 and 8. Makoto (3) Kiran Rai 53.

1. PERICLES,
2. PROMISEOFTHEFUTURE,
3. CONTINUES

3 AMAZING GRACE STAKES (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 3-00: 1. Rocking Girl (2) P. Siddaraju 62.5, 2. Bourbon Bay (7) Rayan 61, 3. Emeraldo (1) Darshan 60, 4. Princess Jasmine (5) K. Suhas 59, 5. Chiraag (6) Vinod Shinde 58, 6. Quevega (4) Angad 56.5, 7. Tankinika (8) Salman Khan 56 and 8. Master Victory (3) Arvind K 53.

1. BOURBON BAY, 2. CHIRAAG, 3. EMERALDO

4 S.V. SUBRAMANIAM MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over, 3-30: 1. Armory (4) M. Rajesh K 60, 2. King Of War (9) G. Vivek 59, 3. Disruptor (8) A. Ramu 58.5, 4. Klimt (7) Vinod Shinde 56.5, 5. Own Legacy (1) Shreyas S 55.5, 6. Solo Prince (5) Anish Anamo H 55.5, 7. Bruce Almighty (3) Akshay K 54.5, 8. Sekhmet (6) Antony 52.5 and 9. Aircraft (2) Arshad 52.

1. KING OF WAR,
2. SEKHMET,
3. BRUCE ALMIGHTY

5 MANAGING COMMITTEE TROPHY (1,800m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Count Basie (4) Srinath 57, 2. Dr Ash (1) Suraj 57, 3. Mescalito (5) Akshay K 57, 4. Rock Bank (3) G. Vivek 57 and 5. Yannick (2) Antony 57.

1. COUNT BASIE,
2. ROCK BANK

6 CHATRAPATHI PLATE (1,800m), rated 60 to 85, 4-30: 1. Tehani (6) Akshay K 60, 2. Splendido (2) G. Vivek 55.5, 3. Golden Time (1) Antony 54.5, 4. Aquamatic (5) Vinod Shinde 53, 5. August (3) Sandesh 51.5 and 6. Auspicious Queen (4) Angad 51.

1. TEHANI,
2. AUGUST

7 HAVERI PLATE (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 5-00: 1. Augusto (11) Arvind K 61.5, 2. Brave Majesty (5) Akshay K 61.5, 3. The Grey Geranium (4) M. Naveen 61.5, 4. Bold Act (7) M. Chandrashekar 61, 5. Super Marvella (9) S. Sachin 59.5, 6. Asagiri (6) Suraj 57.5, 7. Silver Swift (-) (-) 56.5, 8. Agera (3) Darshan 56, 9. Dr. Colchester (1) Afsar 55, 10. Baltimore (10) Ashhad Asbar 54, 11. Striking Eyes (2) Shreyas S 53.5 and 12. Double Scotch (8) Jagadeesh 50.

1. ASAGIRI,
2. BRAVE MAJESTY,
3. THE GREY GERANIUM

Day's best: **COUNT BASIE**

Double: **TEHANI**

– ASAGIRI

Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

THANKING ALL

A moment to remember our sacrifices: Gukesh's mother

FIDE

Gukesh's mother J. Padmakumari reflected on the sacrifices the family made to shape his career. "It is a moment for us to remember all the sacrifices we made, especially Gukesh's father. All our family — grandparents, in-laws, sisters, friends — all came forward to help us in our journey. We are thankful to each one of them," she said.

WINNING QUALITIES

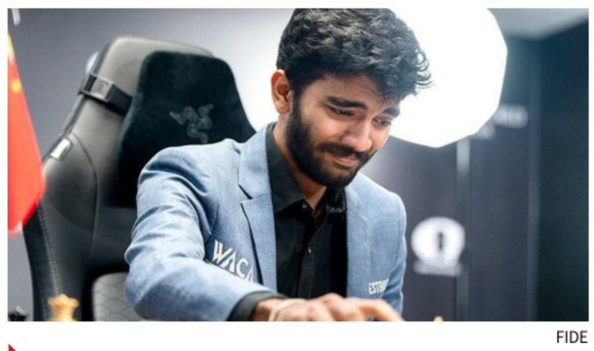
I also exhibited better character and willpower, says Gukesh

FIDE

Gukesh was not perturbed by the criticism over the standard of the title match. "I think the World championship matches are decided not purely by chess but by who has the better character and willpower. I think I showed those qualities quite well," said Gukesh, who took home $1.35 million. Ding was richer by $1.15 million.

CHAMPION STUFF

Gill and Team India praise Gukesh for winning the World crown



FIDE

D. Gukesh's title-winning run in the World championship in Singapore found a warm echo 6,156 km apart at Brisbane. "I congratulate Gukesh on behalf of the Indian cricket team for becoming the World champion. To be the youngest World champion is a great feat," said Shubman Gill.

RECOGNITION

Tamil Nadu CM announces ₹5 crore award for Gukesh

FILE PHOTO

Tamil Nadu CM M.K. Stalin has announced a sum of ₹5 crore to D. Gukesh on being crowned the World champion. Stalin spoke to the 18-year-old and commended him on becoming the youngest to do so. "Your achievement continues India's rich chess legacy and helps Chennai reaffirm its place as the 'global chess capital'", said Stalin.

Crowning glory: Gukesh with his prized possession. FIDE

All hail the new king Gukesh!

The Indian GM receives the World championship trophy at a glittering ceremony; lavishes praise on the vanquished rival Ding again

FIDE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SINGAPORE 2024

P.K. Ajith Kumar
SINGAPORE

The Indian flag wrapped over his shoulders, D. Gukesh walked up to the stage. It was set up just a few yards away from where he had been sitting on a big gaming chair, behind a glass wall, for the past three weeks, fighting the battle of his life.

He was presented with the medal and was also garlanded.

Then that moment arrived.

FIDE president Arkady Dvorkovich handed over to Gukesh the World championship trophy. He took a close look at it – he had to; he had been dreaming of it every day – he smiled at the cheering audience, and posed for the cameras.

Then came his acceptance speech.

After thanking the organisers and the Singaporeans, he looked at Ding Liren, his opponent and the World chess champion till a day ago, and said, "I admire you, and thank you for this amazing fight."

All grace

Grace in the moment of triumph is an enviable quality.

A couple of days ago at the press conference, shortly after missing a winning move in Game 13, and thus potentially weakening his chances of becoming the champion, it was evident that he was having a tough time. When there was a question on Viswanathan Anand, India's first World champion. Gukesh smiled, and wished happy birthday to his mentor, who had turned 55 on that day.

Grace under pressure is an enviable quality.

And he is just 18.

He may be a gentle soul off the board, well-mannered, soft-spoken, sporting a friendly smile on his bearded face, but on the chessboard, he has an uncompromising style. As Ding often found out, he is not the one who would take the easy out for a draw and preserve the energy for the following game.

Shades of Carlsen

He would, like the World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen, grind, trying to build on the slightest of advantages. He would grind even if there is no advantage and the game had reached a drawn position for all practical purposes.

That quality of Gukesh came to the fore right through the match. It helped him win the final game, too, and thus the World title without having to play the tie-breakers. Many, including Ding in all likelihood, had felt that Gukesh had probably lesser chances in the tie-breaker of shorter time controls. But they weren't aware of the countless blitz games he had played during his preparation.

His strong preparation, especially in the opening, was apparent in the match. He had a clear edge in the opening, during which he usually made his moves at frenetic speed, giving him an advantage on the clock. Ding himself admitted that he was often surprised by Gukesh's openings.

His biggest strength is his ability to calculate his moves accurately. Daniil Dubov, who worked as a second for Carlsen for two World championships, told this correspondent recently that Gukesh at his best was like a chess engine (computer).

Gukesh may not have been at his very best here, perhaps. He still was good enough to win the World championship.

And he is young enough that he could be several years from his peak. That may not be a pleasant thought for all those top Grandmasters eyeing the crown that is sitting pretty on his head.

The artist and his canvas: Gukesh at his workstation. FIDE

Series at its tipping point as India and Australia pad up for the Brisbane Test

INDIA IN AUS

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BRISBANE

Wedged between high-rises, a massive hospital, busy roads lined with flame of the forest and frangipani trees, super-markets and old-world cafes, the Gabba seems an oasis of calm. The multiple shades of green on the turf inside, remained as they were while the pitch began to shed its tropical moist look and acquired a dry deciduous facade.

Life still lurks in this surface and on Saturday, the silence here will give way to full-throated cheer, the stomping of a speedster's boots and the thud of a red cherry into a seasoned willow. The Border-Gavaskar Trophy series is at its tipping point. With a 1-1 backdrop, the third Test, the middle one in a long drawn battle of five contests, should offer a fascinating insight into how India and Australia will shape up for the rest of the series.

Onus on batters

The previous clashes at Perth and Adelaide had an air of inevitability due to India's 295-run triumph and Australia's riposte - a ten-wicket victory. The spice-quotient, though, has been enhanced following the incident involving Mohammed Siraj and centurion Travis Head at Adelaide while rival skippers Rohit Sharma and Pat Cummins have gone easy on the rhetoric, being the antacids to quell heartburn.

India steps in with the burden of a batting unit yet to present a cohesive picture of solidity and flair, and this despite the highs at Perth, thanks to Yashasvi Jaiswal, K.L. Rahul and Virat Kohli. Lower-order chutzpah, the kind seen from the likes of Nitish Kumar, has been a belated solution and more needs to be done by his colleagues atop the batting tree.

Rohit, who ceded his opening slot to Rahul at Adelaide, is under the scanner and a big knock is overdue from him. The Mumbaikar has gone 12 innings without a hundred, a 52 against New Zealand at Bengaluru, being the lone crumb. With Josh Hazlewood cleared to play, the Australian pace attack will be more potent but to be fair, Scott Boland was sharp in the solitary opportunity he got at Adelaide.

The visitors have to post decent runs for Jasprit Bumrah and company to twist their knives in. Test cricket's fortunes can wax and wane and both India and Australia have felt this over the last 22 days.

The bigger picture of a spot in the ICC World Test Championship final, still remains, but more importantly Rohit's men have to emulate what previous units led by Kohli and Ajinkya Rahane respectively did in the 2018-19 and 2020-21 tours. A 2-1 verdict was the common garland that linked the two squads. The current bunch has history's weight to deal with, but these are players, who have the talent and expertise to stun the Aussies in their den.

Meanwhile, Cummins and his men are on an upswing after their revival in the second Test. However, Steve Smith is yet to fire and his situation is much akin to Rohit's drought. The redemption song of these stalwarts, will be another subtext to this Test.

The teams (from):
India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), Jasprit Bumrah (Vice-capt.), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, K.L. Rahul, Devdutt Padikkal, Rishabh Pant (wk), Dhruv Jurel (wk), R. Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Washington Sundar, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Mohammed Siraj, Harshit Rana, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Sarfaraz Khan, Akash Deep and Prasidh Krishna.
Australia: Pat Cummins (Capt.), Usman Khawaja, Nathan McSweeney, Steve Smith, Marnus Labuschagne, Travis Head, Mitchell Marsh, Alex Carey (wk), Josh Inglis (wk), Mitchell Starc, Josh Hazlewood, Scott Boland, Nathan Lyon, Beau Webster, Sean Abbott and Brendan Dogget.
Match officials: Umpires: Richard Illingworth and Richard Kettleborough; **Third umpire:** Chris Gaffaney; **Match referee:** Ranjan Madugalle.
Match starts at 5.50 a.m. IST.

The Gabba challenge

India has aced the Brisbane Test only once in seven attempts, but it came during its previous visit Down Under.

India-Australia H2H in Brisbane

PLAYED 7 · INDIA 1 · AUSTRALIA 5 · DRAWN 1

1947: Australia won by an innings and 226 runs
1968: Australia won by 39 runs
1977: Australia won by 16 runs
1991: Australia won by 10 wickets
2003: Drawn
2014: Australia won by four wickets
2021: India won by three wickets

Chartbusters (India-Australia Tests in Brisbane)

Overall		Players in current squads
Smith (252, 4 inns)	Most runs	India: Pant (112, 2 inns) Australia: Smith (252, 4 inns)
Bradman (185, 1947)	Highest	Gill (91, 2021) Smith (133, 2014)
Hazlewood (13, 4 inns)	Most wickets	Siraj (6, 2 inns) Hazlewood (13, 4 inns)
Toshack (6/29, 1947)	Best bowling (innings)	Siraj (5/73, 2021) Hazlewood (5/57, 2021)

SOURCE: ESPNCRICINFO

Gill fondly recalls the incredible 2021 victory

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BRISBANE

If there was any strategy at play, India kept it under wraps in the lead-up to the third Test at the Gabba. The pre-match press-conference here on Friday, turned out to be a delayed venture, and when it finally happened, instead of skipper Rohit Sharma and coach Gautam Gambhir, Shubman Gill turned up.

Being a day of optional training, Gill was among the few, who practised. The Gabba is a venue of memories for the batter thanks to the stunning triumph registered here in 2021 and Gill did his part with a 91. "Just walking into the stadium again after the 2021 win, felt very nostalgic," Gill said.

Asked about Rohit skipping the media interaction, Gill replied: "This was an optional practice session and I think he has practised enough." He then explained why Australia is a tough place to tour: "The intensity at which games are played here, especially Tests, is one of the most difficult things. Maintaining that intensity throughout the course of five days is what makes touring Australia so difficult. The conditions are challenging but there is a period between 30-35 overs and the second new ball, when it gets easier to bat. But you have to maintain mental intensity."

Probed about his batting, Gill opened up: "I was feeling good. In the first innings (at Adelaide) I went into a shell and missed a straight ball. In the second innings, everyone was having difficulty in seeing the ball, in seeing the seam position. I couldn't see the ball from the bowler's hand because of the light and it is a pink ball."

Gill was also sceptical about Australia's short-ball tactics: "Leaving aside the tail-enders, they only got one batter out to the short ball, so I don't know what success he (Pat Cummins) is talking about."

Practice makes perfect: Gill will be keen to shine. GETTY IMAGES

Cummins plays down talk of Gabba being a fortress for the Aussies

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BRISBANE

Games starting at 0-0 is a cliche that has recurred in most pre-match press-conferences out here Down Under. Pat Cummins too sought refuge in this statistic while refusing to be drawn into whether the Gabba or other Australian venues would be deemed a fortress.

Addressing the media here on Friday, Cummins said: "It's just a venue, really. We play in dozens of venues around the world. It's always good to come back to a place that's familiar. You can look at times where you might have scored runs or bowled well, that really helps. The scoreboard starts at 0-0, so the venue isn't relevant any more."

In a topsy-turvy series so far, there has been some criticism of both Cummins and Rohit Sharma. The Australian captain offered his perspective: "There's always pressure when you are playing Test cricket. When you are captain, a lot of that falls on you. It's nothing new. At Perth we didn't play our best. In some ways, a lot of criticism is valid. Some of it isn't."

McSweeney. AFP

Cummins stressed that Josh Hazlewood will replace Scott Boland in the playing eleven for the third Test: "Josh has had no hiccups. It is tough on Scotty, probably he will get another crack later. There's always some form of natural attrition throughout a Test series, it's a good thing he has played a Test earlier in the series."

The speedster was not averse to replicating the short-ball tactics against the Indians: "It's always in the back of your mind as a bit of a Plan B. It worked in Adelaide, so I am sure we will give it a shot at some point." And as for Steve Smith, Cummins added: "His record is huge and stats suggest that (a big knock) is not far."

Rahane powers Mumbai into the final

Hardik Pandya fails to get going in the semifinal; Patidar's strokeful half-century helps Madhya Pradesh knock out Delhi

MUSHTAQ ALI TROPHY

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Ajinkya Rahane (98, 56b, 11x4, 5x6) tore into the Baroda attack to give Mumbai a six-wicket win in their Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy semifinal at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Friday.

Rahane put on a brilliant attacking display, using classical shots to maximum effect. The 36-year-old made light of the 159-run target set by Baroda, helping his side reach the finish line in 17.2 overs.

Mumbai will take on Madhya Pradesh in the final here on Sunday.

Rahane's intent was clear early, as the opener hit left-arm pacer Lukman Meriwala for two fours and a six in the first three deliveries he faced.

Rahane flourished in the company of captain Shreyas Iyer (46, 30b, 4x4, 3x6), who proved to be an able foil. The duo put on 88 runs for the second wicket, which took Baroda out of the contest.

Batting first, Baroda could only manage a modest score. Krunal Pandya made a handy 30, but the side's star player Hardik Pandya fell cheaply for five. Shivalik Sharma (36 n.o., 24b, 2x4, 2x6) and Atit Sheth (22, 14b, 2x4, 1x6) came good at the death.

Blistering knock: Rahane was in blazing form as Mumbai rolled into the summit clash. K. MURALI KUMAR

In the second semifinal, Madhya Pradesh rode on fine knocks from Rajat Patidar (66 n.o., 29b, 4x4, 6x6) and Harpreet Singh (46 n.o., 38b, 4x4, 2x6) to knock Delhi out.

Patidar and Harpreet added an unbroken 106-run fourth-wicket stand to guide Madhya Pradesh to victory.

After being put in, Delhi failed to get going and finished with a disappointing 146 for five. Only Anuj Rawat (33 n.o.) and Priyansh Arya (29) managed to get among the runs, even as the run-rate stayed under par.

Madhya Pradesh skipper Venkatesh Iyer scalped two wickets in two overs with his medium pace.

The scores:
Baroda 158/7 in 20 overs (Shashwat Rawat 33, Krunal Pandya 30, Shivalik Sharma 36 n.o.) lost to Mumbai 164/4 in 17.2 overs (Ajinkya Rahane 98, Shreyas Iyer 46).
Toss: Mumbai; **PoM:** Rahane.
Delhi 146/5 in 20 overs (Priyansh Arya 29, Anuj Rawat 33 n.o.) lost to Madhya Pradesh 152/3 in 15.4 overs (Harsh Gawali 30, Harpreet Singh 46 n.o., Rajat Patidar 66 n.o).
Toss: MP; **PoM:** Patidar.

The fearless Rahane 2.0

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

For most part of his career, Ajinkya Rahane made a name for himself as a classical, sedate batter. But in the last couple of years, he has reinvented himself as an attacking T20 opener.

Rahane tops the run charts in this year's Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, smacking 432 runs at an impressive strike rate of nearly 170. He has been in devastating touch in the last three games (98, 84 and 95).

The first signs of Rahane's hitting abilities came in IPL 2023, when he represented Chennai Super Kings. He went at a tournament strike rate of 172.48 as the M.S. Dhoni-led unit claimed the IPL title.

"The message from CSK was clear – play your natural game. In other teams, the message was to bat till 15-16 overs while the others would play around me. That was why I was playing at a strike rate of 120 to 130. I am now allowing myself to bat with freedom," Rahane said here on Friday.

At 36, Rahane is in the final phase of his career. He has represented India in 85 Tests, 90 ODIs and 20 T20Is.

His last international cap came in July 2023, in a Test against West Indies.

"The love and passion for cricket keeps me going, and the fire inside me is still alive to represent India," Rahane said.

A clash of titans as BFC hosts FCG

ISL

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Following a rousing Sunil Chhetri-inspired 4-2 home win over Kerala Blasters, Bengaluru FC will look to stabilise its undulating Indian Super League form when it welcomes FC Goa to the Sree Kanteerava Stadium on Saturday.

BFC is tied on points with leader Mohun Bagan (23) but has lost twice and drawn once in its last five games. In the first six matches, BFC had conceded a solitary goal. In the five fixtures since then, it has shipped 12.

Head coach Gerard Zaragoza, though, is unperturbed. "We are not happy to concede, but we are winning," he insisted on Friday. "Even if you concede, but win 4-2, it is spectacular. As a coach, you want a clean sheet. But the bigger priority is winning."

Goa, on the other hand, has seen its fortunes turn in the last month. After a paltry six points from the opening six ties, Manolo Marquez's outfit, starting with the 3-0 home victory against BFC, has won four on the trot.

After BFC, Goa will meet Bagan and Odisha, a stretch that will test its mettle. "Last year, by this time, only the sixth playoff spot was open. But this season, I wouldn't bet who would be in the top six," Marquez said.

Friday's result: At Jamshedpur: Jamshedpur FC 2 (Javi Siverio 45+4 & 84) bt Punjab FC 1 (Ezequiel Vidal 46).

SNAPSHOTS

Treesa-Gayatri duo bows out of Tour Finals
The Indian women's pair of Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand missed out on a semifinal spot at the BWF World Tour Finals after losing to Japan's Nami Matsuyama and Chiharu Shida 21-17, 21-13 in their group A match in Hangzhou on Friday.

India squads
India's squads for the limited-overs series against West Indies were announced on Friday.
The squads: T20Is: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana (Vice-capt.), Nandini Kashyap, Jemimah Rodrigues, Richa Ghosh (wk), Uma Chetry (wk), Deepti Sharma, Sajana Sajeevan, Raghvi Bist, Renuka Singh, Priya Mishra, Titas Sadhu, Saima Thakor, Minnu Mani, and Radha Yadav; **The schedule:** Dec. 15, 17 and 19, all at DY Patil Stadium (Navi Mumbai), 7 p.m.
ODIs: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana (Vice-capt.), Pratika Rawal, Jemimah Rodrigues, Harleen Deol, Richa Ghosh (WK), Uma Chetry (WK), Tejal Hasabnis, Deepti Sharma, Minnu Mani, Priya Mishra, Tanuja Kanwer, Titas Sadhu, Saima Thakor, and Renuka Singh.
The dates: Dec. 22, 24 (1.30 p.m.) and 27 (9.30 a.m.), all at Vadodara.

Paltan too hot for Bulls
Puneri Paltan cantered to a 56-18 win over Bengaluru Bulls in a PKL 11 contest in Pune on Friday. Patna Pirates scored a 42-38 win over Tamil Thalaivas in the first match of the day.

India in Asia Cup semis; qualifies for Jr WC
Deepika led the way with four goals as defending champion India crushed Thailand 9-0 to enter the semifinals of the women's junior Asia Cup in Muscat and also qualified for the Junior World Cup.
The result: India 9 (Sakshi 17, Kanika 23, 25, 40, Lalrinpuii 27, Deepika 28, 31, 35, 55) bt Thailand 0.

BENGALURU ROUND UP

Aarav in line for double
India's Aarav Chhallani stayed in line for a double in the KSLTA-Asian Junior (U-14) tournament being played at the KSLTA courts, here on Friday.
The 12-year-old outplayed Aarav Mulay 4-1, 5-3 to enter the singles final, and a little later, partnered with Yash Kumar to make the doubles final with a 5-4(6) win over Madhav Dadhich and Arjun Manikandan. Because of rain on Thursday, all matches were curtailed affairs, except the girls' singles semifinals.
The results (semifinals):
Boys: Arjun Manikandan bt Kian Patel 4-2, 4-0; Aarav Chhallani bt Aarav Mulay 4-1, 5-3.
Doubles: Aarav Chhallani & Yash Kumar bt Madhav Dadhich & Arjun 5-4(6), 4-2; Armaan Dua & Arsh Kathuria bt Monodip Dey & Shahbaaz Singh Sanghera 4-0, 4-0.
Girls: Padmapriya Ramesh Kumar bt Krishika Gautam 6-2, 6-4; Diya Ravikumar Janaki bt Niesha Enja 2-6, 6-3, [10-7].
Doubles: Ayessha Bagla & Diya bt Niesha & Mithravinda Sathish (USA) 4-1, 4-1; Padmapriya & Jahnavi Tammineedi bt Eshitha Sriyala & Parinitha K. Vattaprambil 1-4, 4-0, [11-9].

Sporting Club battles back for a draw
Sporting Club Bengaluru came back from a two-goal deficit to secure a 2-2 draw against Delhi FC in an I-League match at the Bangalore Football Stadium on Friday.
After Stephane Samir Binong netted twice for Delhi (34th and 52nd), Thomyo Shimray matched the Cameroon forward's feat with two goals of his own (53rd and 75th) for the Bengaluru side.
Sporting, with four points in five games, is 11th in the 12-team league. It hosts Namdhari on Dec. 20.

LIVE TELECAST

ISL: Sports 18-3 & JioCinema, 5 & 7.30 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 & Hotstar, 8 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1 & 2 & Hotstar, 8.30, & 11 p.m.
South Africa vs Pakistan: 3rd T20I, Sports 18-1 & JioCinema, 9.30 p.m.
New Zealand vs England: 3rd Test, day 2, Sony Sports Ten 5 & LIV, 3.30 a.m. (Sunday)
Australia vs India: 3rd Test, day 2, Star Sports 1 & Hotstar, 5.50 a.m. (Sunday)

QUICK SINGLES

Jibin sizzles with bat and ball
BENGALURU: Jibin John starred for Jaidur Cricketers (91 & 5/25) as it beat Blue Diamond Cricketers by 18 runs in a KSCA (Group I) fourth division league contest recently.
The scores:
Jaidur Cricketers 215/8 in 47 overs (Jibin John 91, B.C. Devaraju 51, Rohit Antaal 32 n.o., P.D. Nitish 3/24) bt Blue Diamond Cricketers 197 in 46.3 overs (H. Vinodh 27, B.R. Sunil Kumar 53, P.D. Nitish 38, Jibin John 5/25, Anil Kudekallu 3/37).
Malleswaram United 268/9 in 50 overs (R. Prajwal 38, N. Harshavardhan 25, K. Nihal Gowda 31, N.M. Shashank 49, Vinod Munikrishna 39, L. Rakshith 47, K. Gagan Sai 3/42) bt Eleven Brothers, Magadi 235/9 in 50 overs (Narra Chandra 52, K. Akhil 60, Saif Siddiqui 46, K. Gagan Sai 46 n.o., K. Nihal Gowda 3/42, Vinod Munikrishna 3/33).
IISC Gymkhana 141 in 30 overs (Naman Yadav 38, Sunil Kumar Komal 37, Aadil Bashir Dar 25) lost to Sparklers 144/5 in 25.2 overs (M. Abhishek 31, B.R. Vivan 45, Eshwar Nayak 43 n.o.).
Gandhinagar Cricketers 132 in 39.2 overs (T.R. Dhanush 31, Pranshu J. Patel 64, B.R. Rathan 3/27) lost to Jayanagar Colts 135/7 in 31 overs (L. Mohith 39, Nagesh V. Rao 37, Punit R. Basava 31 n.o.).
Silky Town, Channapatna 159 in 41.1 overs (A. Mohammed Kashif 70 n.o., G. Hari Prasad 5/28) bt Magadi 119 in 42.4 overs (T.S. Sharath 28, Somashekara Murthy 3/31).
Vikram 253/9 in 50 overs (P. Ganesh 40, Rohits 39, Bharat B. Badiger 46, Akash 36) bt Freelancers 193 in 40.5 overs (Koushik Hegde 55, K. Pavan Kumar 28, Santhosh 44, K.M. Bhanu Prakash 33, Benedict Raj Badiger 3/27).
Young Challenging Cricketers 85 in 23.2 overs (Karan Umesh 27, P. Sri Bhagath 4/11, H. Nagaraj 3/21) lost to Huttons 86/3 in 14.5 overs (Ronak Chawla 30 n.o.).
Standard 139 in 37.5 overs (S. Nishal 41, B. Shashank 37, Vinuth Kumar 3/34) lost to Young Pioneer 140/5 in 27.3 overs (Swapneel Bhange 37, A. Manish Gowda 40 n.o.).
Crescent (1) 138 in 31.3 overs (Akshay 34, S. Shaurya 51, Arjun Kumar 4/54, Advik Rastogi 3/29) lost to Dolphin Cricketers 139/4 in 32.2 overs (Yashwanth Patel 82 n.o., B.C. Rohan 31).

Thangventluanga, Kevin deliver for Warriors against Gunners
Bangalore Warriors FC blanked Bangalore Gunners FC 3-0 in the BDFA B-division football league here on Friday.
The results:
Postal Dept FC 1 (S. Dhanush 43) drew with Stride FC 1 (Rajesh 25); Juno FC 1 (Balwinder Singh 70) drew with ADE FC 1 (D. Gnana Prakash 70+6).
Bangalore Warriors FC 3 (Thangventluanga 41, 50, Kevin Lourd Nandan 60) bt Bangalore Gunners FC 0.

Garuda HC slots 14 past hapless Southern Alpha
Garuda Hockey Club thrashed Southern Alpha Sports Academy 14-4 in the KSHA C-division hockey league on Friday.
In another match, Bangalore Friends HC crushed Besant HC-B 7-1.

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